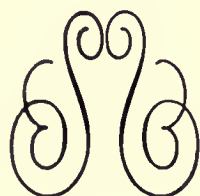


Collection of
CIVIL WAR LETTERS

Written by
MERCER COUNTY SOLDIERS



Compiled by Gene Kelly

FOREWARD

In the pages of this booklet you will find copies of letters written by Mercer County soldiers who served during the Civil War.... letters which no one has read for over 100 years. The soldiers who served during that war wrote letters home which were reprinted in the local newspaper, which at that time was the Aledo Weekly Record. Today, it is The Times Record, Aledo.

Also in this booklet is a report on the capture of Jefferson Davis, reprints of a rare letter written by Edman Spangler on Sept. 15, 1856, to someone in Mercer County (Spangler was one of those accused and sentenced to Dry Tortugas prison for their part in the assassination of Abraham Lincoln), and another letter from the same prison regarding the status of several prisoners there.

Letters are copied here just as they were written and reprinted over 100 years ago. Even the spelling of the words is the same. This was done to preserve the letters in the most authentic manner possible.

There are some extremely interesting reports on the assassination and last hours of Lincoln -- and a copy of a letter written by President Lincoln to the Springfield Convention in 1863.

There were 150 copies of this booklet prepared. We hope you will retain your copy after reading it. We also hope you enjoy reading it.

Gene Kelly

4/58

FROM THE 84TH REGIMENT.

POST HOSPITAL, MANCHESTER, TENN., August 17,
1863.

DEAR EDITOR:--As you are seldom troubled with communications from the 84th, you may not consider it intrusion if I offer a few lines for publication in your paper.

On Saturday, the 15th inst., I was requested to come to this place to assist in taking care of the sick for a few days, till they could be all sent back to the hospitals.

On Sunday morning, about 7 o'clock, our corps (Crittenden's) was put in forward motion, the rear of the train passing through town about 3 p. m. The men that go forward are in splendid health and spirits. Their destination is East Tennessee.

The whole number of sick sent to this post from Palmer's and Wood's Divisions, since our late movement, is two hundred and twenty-five; about fifty of this number, still remaining here, will be sent back by the first opportunity, which will probably be on tomorrow, when I shall proceed to my regiment, via McMinnville.

This may serve to show your readers the whereabouts of this wing of the army, and give them an idea of the condition of their health.

In this connection it might be interesting to the friends of Co. H, 84th Regiment, to learn something of the condition of that company. Of the ninety-eight men with which we organized, there remain seventy, the rest being dead or discharged. Of these seventy, forty-five are present with the regiment, fifteen are back at the hospitals, and the rest are on detached duty. Of the fifteen that are back, quite a number are in good health, but are detained on hospital duty without being regularly detailed.

This may serve to give an idea of the effective strength of army, Co. H being above an average in our regiment, may be safely put as a full average of the companies mustered into the service last year. Of course we do not pretend that our regiment or company will compare in numbers with some that I could name, that have been back all the time on garrison duty, that have seen no hardships.

The smallest regiment that I have any knowledge of, that was brought into the service last year, numbers two hundred men.-- This regiment was reduced to its present size chiefly by discharges and desertions, and is now, after being purged of its dross, one of the best in the service. A similar process would be attended with equally good effects in some other regiments.

If our forces now, as in the last movement, move all together, and act in concert, as they did on that memorable occasion, we have reason to hope that similar success will be the result. In such an event there would remain but little foot room for the rebellion. It is not best, as we have learned, to anticipate events too flattering. But late achievements have been so cheering that we all feel like indulging a little. I am, therefore, willing to risk my reputation as a prophet in predicting that if the present movement succeeds as well

as the last, those of us who are then living will be at home with our friends within six months from this time. This is truly encouraging, and I verily believe no less true.

To our friends at home I have but to say be encouraged, and do what you can to encourage us and forward the good work. This is no time to give way for a moment to despondency. But it is emphatically the time for united, energetic action. Then quit your firing in our rear, and blowing the dust and smoke of political strife and discord into each others eyes; and sustain our arms by removing every obstacle to true Union sentiment out of the way whilst we thrust in our united force, by which, under the blessing of Providence, we hope to hunt this hideous monster --Rebellion-- into the deep, dark gulf of eternal infamy and shame. Then shall we with ease raise the stars that his foul coil has dragged in the dust and filth of secession, and place them again in their former proud position on the fair escutcheon of American liberty. And you, butternuts, break the fetters that bind you to your party idols, and come and worship with us at the shrine of the Goddess of Freedom, in the Temple of Liberty. For the doom of despots, rebels and traitors begins to appear in the hand writing on the wall. I will just give a rough sketch of it below, for their benefit. In six months we propose to present the head of this grim visager monster--Rebellion--not to the Royal Princess, (the daughter of Heridotus,) in a charger, but to the Virgin Queen of Liberty, on the broad chaplet of peace; and whilst we cast his putrid carcass to the vulture and the dogs, his pale ghost, mantled in its winding sheet--the Palmetto--standing on the Stygian shore, will read its doom "by the red light of hell." Then shall the Davis dynasty strike sail on the Stigeian sea, whilst the hordes of Northern traitors and agitators fond the river Styx, and proceed by land to the same port of destination. Then, when the Red Sea of blood and carnage shall be submerged in the ocean of freedom and peace, shall the nations of the earth send up their aspirations of praise in one long, loud anthem to the Goddess of Liberty. So mote it be.

Very respectfully yours,
E. DETWILER.

FROM THE 9TH REGIMENT.

POCAHONTAS, TENN., Aug. 21, 1863.

DEAR EDITOR:--The time of the "sore and yellow leaf" seems nigh upon us, but through the whole summer, I have it to say, the cavalry and all other mounted forces in this District of Western Tennessee have been constantly active, chasing, routing and punishing the enemy in every direction. We have to meet with the first repulse of any moment, in engagements, that have been numerous in these parts, guarded by the 16th Army corps.

To-day we hear of the success of our Lieut. Col. Phillips, who, with our regiment and detachments of cavalry regiments and brigades from Lagrange, Tenn., numbering in all 1500 men, has driven the enemy from Grenada, Miss., and destroyed public property there, as the following dispatch through couriers will explain:

LAGRANGE, Aug. 20.

"Major General Hurlbut, Memphis:--The cavalry sent from here on the 15th inst., under command of Lieut. Col. Phillips, reached Grenada on the 17th; drove Slemmer, with 2,000 men and three pieces of artillery, from the place; destroyed fifty-seven engines, upward of four hundred cars, the depot buildings, machine shops, and several blacksmith shops, besides a quantity of ordnance and commissary stores; capturing about fifty railroad men and a number of prisoners. After Col. Phillips, with his command, had accomplished his work Col. Winder, of the 4th Iowa cavalry, arrived from below," (Vicksburg.)

Our regiment is expected in camp on the 23d or 24th inst. We learn that only one man in it was wounded; he is of Company I. Mercer county people, having friends in the regiment, need not be uneasy about them on account of their long silence per letters.

Five track men, on the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, were captured yesterday, and immediately paroled, by a band of four guerrillas. They destroyed a hand-car.

The notorious guerrilla chief, Sol. Street, attacked one of our foraging trains a few days since, when a few miles from camp, but was repulsed with a loss to him of three killed, and a few horses and mules captured. Street's horse was among them. Being hard pressed, the rider dismounted and "took to the brush." Such notorious guerrillas do not get the benefit of a "trial by jury" when caught here.-- As a glorious result they becoming few in West Tennessee, and citizens breathe easier. "So mote it be."

G. M. G.

THE EXPEDITION TO GRENADA.

On the outside of this week's issue we publish a brief account of the expedition to Grenada, Miss. The author of that letter did not accompany the expedition, and, of course, knew nothing about its details. Next week we hope to be able to give a full account of the affair, written by a correspondent who participated in it-- who was one of it; in the meantime, we are permitted to insert the following interesting details from a private letter from a soldier in the 9th regiment to his parents in Mercer county:

POCAHONTAS, TENN., Aug. 24, 1863.

MY DEAR PARENTS:--We are again safely in camp, after a very tedious march of eleven days (and nights) and a half. We arrived in camp this morning at 8½ o'clock, very tired, hungry and dirty. We had a very interesting trip, for all it was very tedious. I will try and give you a very imperfect detail. We left camp on the evening of the 12th, at 2½ o'clock, taking the Ripley road; marched all night, marching only twelve miles; stopped to feed and get breakfast; took the Salem road, which place we reached about 4 o'clock p. m., and where we expected to meet the force of cavalry from Lagrange, but found they had passed; took the Oxford road (following their trail) and camped about five miles from Tippah Creek, about 11 p. m.

14th.---Moved at daybreak, moving very fast, and reached Rockyford about 9 p. m.; crossed in ferry and went into camp.

15th.---Started very early (at Rockyford were within five miles of the place we had the fight, where Fleming was wounded,) pushing

on, caught up with the cavalry at Oxford, Lt. Col. Phillips taking command of the brigade, consisting of parts of the 2d Iowa, 3d Michigan, 11th Illinois, and our regiment; did not stop at Oxford but a short time; took the Coffeerville road, which place was thirty miles distant. The weather was very hot.-- Moved slow; went about nine or ten miles and camped; had a very heavy storm at dark, very heavy thundering.

Sunday, 16th---Bugle sounded at 3 a. m.; got breakfast, saddled and moved at sunrise. The 3d, 4th and 9th Illinois cavalry came up to us this morning. Crossed the Yockena river by ferry about 12 o'clock. Col. Phillips still in command. The rebs were cutting the ferry just as the advance came up. There had been a rebel train of wagons crossed in the morning; 2d Iowa crossed and pushed on to catch them if possible, which they did at Water Valley, distance about five miles from the river; train consisted of seven six-mule teams, loaded with corn, which came in very good time, as we wanted feed; got a few prisoners and some horses. This station is on the Mississippi Central Railroad, between Oxford and Coffeerville. Moved at 6 p. m. Soon after leaving a rain storm came up; got very dark, but still we moved on; so dark we could not see the animals we were on only by the flashes of lightning; some of the boys lost their guns. It was very dangerous, as there were deep gullies on each side of the road. There were a good many horses and mules fell in, but I believe no one was hurt.-- I was riding an old horse; he fell with me once, but did not hurt me much. Camped at 12 p. m. about four miles from Coffeerville.

17th.---Started at 6, and moved on to town where we stopped and fed. We were about thirteen miles from Grenada, at which place it was supposed there were a large number of cars and engines. A train was expected in town that morning. After resting a short time moved on, and about five miles from town met the train; endeavored to capture it, but it took the back track. There was one engine on the track, out of repair. On passing the next station we saw four engines and a large number of cars; had drove the rebs pickets for some time; moved to within about three miles of Grenada, when the rebs thought they would make a stand. The greater portion of our brigade was moved forward in line of skirmish, (on foot;) our boys made a steady advance, when they found the rebs on the opposite side of the Yellow Basha River, just in the edge of town. Our boys advanced steadily, (firing,) and drove them from behind their rifle pits, while they were in the open ground. We only had three men wounded in the engagement, one in our regiment. Before we reached town the rebels burned two very large railroad bridges. Shortly after the cavalry crossed and found the enemy all gone; went into camp within half a mile of town.-- Heavy foraging was going on in town to-day.

18th.---The force of cavalry from Vicksburg came in this morning--the 3d and 4th Iowa and 5th Illinois. The Colonel of the 4th Iowa took command. Stopped all foraging in town. Lay in camp all day.

We have just had worship, and as it is getting late and I feel very tired I will have to close until morning.

TUESDAY, August 25.

Got up very late; the weather is very cool this morning.

19th.---Bugle call at 3 o'clock, a. m.; got ready and moved at daylight, on the Panola road, toward home, Col. Winders in command. Had heavy foraging parties out every day on the road home. At Panola

had a little skirmish; no one hurt; but in crossing the swamp this side they bushwhacked stragglers, and killed one white man and one negro and wounded another negro. There was but very little happened on the road home. The Vicksburg force left us within about thirty miles of Memphis. Came through Holly Springs, which has been a very pretty place. We left the Lagrange force about ten miles north of that place; had forty prisoners--all soldiers; most of them are tired of soldiering and are willing to play quits.

There were more negroes this time than I ever saw before in my life. The recruiting officers from Lagrange got about five hundred able bodied negroes, besides what the other brigades took with them, and the women and children. There seemed to be no end to them. Before the other brigades left us, there must have been near two thousand in all, old and crippled. Some followed us for five or six days, keeping up with the mules. I pined them. Very near naked; you could see the marks of the lash on many of their backs. I saw two or three girls that were as white as any of us, that had been slaves. One beautiful girl said her master was her nearest relative, and she wished to get away; was brought along. Who can uphold such an institution? I am for cleaning it out while we are engaged.

Grenada is a beautiful place. The citizens said they were glad to see us; could not see what the rebs were fighting for. I have given you a very imperfect account of the trip, but J. G. C. will write to the record, and give a more minute detail. I am too tired and sore to write very much more, besides, I must get my clothes and accoutrements cleaning up to-day. It is so cool I am chilly. You must be having frost up there.

I forgot to tell you what we found in Grenada; there was about sixty locomotives and between three and four hundred cars; destroyed part of them. What we got to see paid us for the hardship we underwent. I would not have missed it for \$500.

Your ever affectionate son, J. A. G.

FROM THE 9TH REGIMENT.

CAMP 9TH ILLINOIS INFANTRY VOLS.,
POCAHONTAS, TENN., Sept. 26, 1863.

DEAR EDITOR:--At the request of several Mercer county boys, I send you below a correct roll of men from your county, who are, or have been, in Company E, 9th Illinois Infantry Volunteers, which you may publish, if you see fit:

- 1st Lieut.--Wm. D. Craig, Aledo; promoted to Assistant Surgeon of the Regiment, June 8, 1862.
- 2d Serg't.--Augustus T. Waterbury, Aledo; died at Paducah, Ky., February 2, 1862, of pneumonia.
- 3d Serg't.--Thomas F. McClintock, Millersburg.
- 4th Serg't.--Charles B. Fleming, Keithsburg; wounded at Rocky Ford, Miss., June 20, 1863.
- 1st Corp'l.--John A. Gilmore, Millersburg; wounded at Fort Donelson, February 15, 1862.

2d Corp'l.--James G. Carnahan, Millersburg; wounded at Shiloh,
April 6, 1862.

3d Corp'l.--Joseph R. Cox, Rivoli; wounded at Shiloh, April 6, 1862.

5th Corp'l.--Charles C. Wordin, Keithsburg.

Wagoner---William Minor, Sunbeam; deserted from Parole Camp in July last.

Private---John Beatty, Millersburg; died at Jackson, Tenn., of wounds
received at Corinth, Oct. 3, 1862.

" William Boyer, Ohio Grove,

" George W. Bruner, Monmouth; discharged.

" Russell W. Cool, Aledo; discharged for wounds received at
Fort Donelson, February 15, 1862.

" Augustus B. Cox, Rivoli.

" Aaron S. Dilley, Ohio Grove.

" Chas. Dryden, Keithsburg; wounded at Shiloh, April 6, 1862.

" Abisha Dodson, Abington.

" Wm. Evans, Keithsburg; wounded at Fort Donelson, February
15, 1862.

" Dennis C. Frothingham, Ohio Grove; wounded at Fort Donelson,
February 15, 1862.

" Jas. B. Gilmore, Sunbeam; wounded at Fort Donelson, February
15, 1862.

" George M. Gilmore, Millersburg; wounded at Fort Donelson,
February 15, 1862.

" Elisha P. Graham, Sunbeam.

" John W. Hoy, Sunbeam; discharged for wounds received at
Shiloh, April 6, 1862.

" Daniel Hubbard, Millersburg; wounded at Shiloh, April 6, 1862.

" Edwin Hughes, Keithsburg.

" James Haverfield, Millersburg; died at home, May 8, 1862.

" William J. Johnson, Millersburg; promoted to Quartermaster
Sergeant, July 1, 1862.

" Joseph E. Jones, Aledo; died at Keokuk, Iowa, of wounds re-
ceived at Shiloh, April 6, 1862.

" William P. Kelley, Keithsburg; wounded at Fort Donelson,
Feb. 15, 1862; wounded and missing at Corinth,
October 4, 1862.

" George F. Lee, Aledo.

" John H. Livingston, Monmouth; discharged.

" Calvin Martin, Millersburg; promoted Corporal for bravery
at Shiloh, died at Quincy, Illst May 29, 1862.

" James Miller, Abington.

" William Mock, Sunbeam; wounded Shiloh, April 6, 1862.

" Jesse Mock, Sunbeam; severely wounded at Shiloh, April 6,
1862, and missing since.

" John Moorehead, Aledo.

" Frank M. Moore, Aledo; wounded at Fort Donelson, Feb. 15,
1862; died at Louisville, Ky., of wounds
received at Shiloh April 6, 1862.

" Wm. D. Nevius, Sunbeam; wounded and missing at Shiloh,
April 6, 1862.

" Wm. F. Primley, Sunbeam; wounded at Corinth, Miss.,
October 3, 1862.

" Wm. H. H. Reily, Aledo.

" Samuel Selley, Keithsburg; taken prisoner at Fort Donelson,
February 15, 1862, and exchanged.

Private--Samuel M. Smith, Sunbeam; discharged.

" Wm. H. H. Smith, Sunbeam.

" John N. Shoemaker, Rivoli; died at St. Louis, Mo., of wounds received at Shiloh, April 6, 1862.

" George N. Sheldon, Monmouth; discharged.

" Thos. Stalkal, Millersburg; wounded at Shiloh, April 6, 1862.

" George Snyder, Aledo; wounded at Fort Donelson, February 15, 1862 and discharged.

" James Shoyer, Keithsburg.

" Ephraim J. Tyler, Ohio Grove; wounded at Rocky Ford, Miss., June 20, 1863.

" Neal Vestel, Aledo; wounded at Shiloh, April 6, 1862; taken prisoner at Corinth, Oct. 4, 1862, and exchanged.

" Jacob White, Aledo.

" James F. Williams, Aledo; discharged for wounds received at Corinth, October 4, 1862.

The Company was organized at Cairo, with 101 men, to which were added 3 recruits before the regiment went into the field. At Fort Donelson there were 2 killed, 23 wounded and 2 taken prisoners from this company. At Shiloh, 6 killed, 26 wounded and 3 missing. At Corinth, 9 wounded and 2 missing. At Rocky Ford, Miss., 3 wounded; making an aggregate of 8 killed, 61 wounded, 7 died. Sickness caused 9 deaths, making the number of deaths 24. There were discharged, 11 on account of wounds, and 10 for other causes, making 21 discharged from the company. Three deserted. The present strength of the company is 56.

TROY.

FROM THE 126TH REGIMENT.

CAMP NEAR LITTLE ROCK, ARK., September 21, 1863.

DEAR EDITOR:--Thinking I might drop you a few lines that would be interesting to the readers of your paper, who are anxious to hear from the soldiers in the field, I send you some hasty thoughts. It has been some time since I last wrote you, and we have been on the move about all the time, first in one place and then in another. But it is common for soldiers to be stirring round, to see what is going on inside of the enemy's lines, or about them.

My last was written at Medon, Tenn. Our stay was short there. We returned to Jackson and stayed a few days, when we received orders to be ready to march at short notice. Where we were going was yet a mystery to us, and while we were discussing the question of our destination the order came to pull up tents and get aboard the cars. This being done, we were soon on our journey southward. We arrived in the city of Memphis. Then it was no longer a mystery to us, for our baggage was re-loaded on to a steamer, and then we steamed down the great river which had been so long blockaded at Vicksburg by the rebels. All passed off well until we were fired into by the bush-whackers from the shore. Fortunately the boys were nearly all asleep, and it not yet being daylight, on one was hurt much. But they were roused up in a hurry and returned the fire, when the rebels took

to the woods, and we passed on for the great city that they believed impregnable. We arrived at Young's Point on the 2d of June, and could hear the guns thundering in and around the city. We run down within four miles of the city and reported to some General, and then run back to the mouth of the Yazoo river; went up that river to Haines' Bluff. Here we landed and camped for the night. Then came a series of marching and countermarching that I shall not try to relate. Here we lay and waited and fortified for old Johnston, but he did not conclude to try to come in; and while we were here at work the siege was progressing finely, and all were confident the city would fall soon; and thus we waited until the 4th of July, when the great victory was achieved which will add another laurel to the memorable day of our independence.

We left Haines' Bluff on the 24th of July and came to Helena, Ark. Here we stayed three weeks. We came out there after Price and his army. We left there on the 13th of August, with about 12,000 men and several batteries of artillery. We left a good many of our boys sick at Helena, and three have since died. Three took sick at Ball's Bluff and died. This makes our company smaller in numbers and men. We have lost eighteen by death, and among them our Captain, H. D. Cline.

We left the Bluff on the 1st of September and marched twenty-four miles across Grand Prairie, this being the first that we have seen since we left the Old Prairie State. The morning of the 2d we were on the tramp early and came into Brownsville, and camped a day or two. Then we started out for the capital of the State. Again we marched all day, and camped within three miles of the Arkansas River; lay there two days and then started for the river, with the determination of crossing about twelve miles below the city. Laid the pontoon bridge, and when it was about finished the rebels opened on us with shell from the other side of the river. They fired several shots before our batteries replied, but when they did open the rebels soon left, and then our forces began to cross over, the 2d Minnesota Regiment in the advance, then Gen. Davidson's cavalry forded, and the artillery crossed the bridge. As soon as the cavalry had got across, the infantry came back, and we advanced on both sides of the river, the cavalry fighting them as they ran. The infantry had nothing to do but march ahead, for the attack on this side of the river and when we got within about two miles of the breastworks, the word came that Price had left and was retreating toward Arkadelphia, Ark. We came inside of their works and camped for the night, and sent a force on the other side to take possession of the city. The cavalry did about all the fighting. They followed the rebels about thirty miles, and have taken a good many prisoners; but they have come back now, and we hold the capital of the State, with all Government property, safe and in order.

H. G. L.

NO. OF MERCER MEN IN SERVICE.

SUNBEAM, MERCER CO., ILL., August 5, 1863.

DEAR EDITOR:-- If the following statement of the representation of the Militia of Mercer Co., Ill., would be of interest to your readers, you can publish it.

In transcribing the enrollment lists of the Militia of Mercer County, for the year 1862, I find 1522 men have left for the army, and are scattered through the following Brigades and Regiment, viz:

1st, 6th, 8th, 9th, 11th, 13th and 47th Cavalry;
7th Missouri Cavalry;
7th and 8th Kansas Cavalry;
1st Pennsylvania "
2d Iowa "
*Capt. Jones' "
*Capt. Dodge's "
Mississippi Flotilla;
Berge's Sharp-Shooters;
1st Iowa Artillery;
Capt. Waterhouse's Artillery;
1st Pennsylvania "
9th, 10th, 12th, 17th, 19th, 27th, 29th, 30th, 36th, 37th, 38th,
43d, 45th, 50th, 56th, 65th, 69th, 74th, 83d, 84th, 88th, 102d, 107th,
112th, and 124th Illinois Reg'ts. Infantry;
3d, 4th, 7th, 8th, and 32d Iowa Reg'ts. Infantry;
14th Indiana Reg't Infantry;
18th Missouri " "
84th and 100th Penn. "
Irish Brigade, Virginia;
and perhaps in some other Reg'ts, as five of the Enrolling Officers,
enrolled the men in their Townships as absent in the U. S. service,--
not giving the Regiments.

WM. I. NEVIUS.

Macon, GA, May 13

Hon. E. M. Stanton:

Lient. Col. Hardin, commanding the 1st Wisconsin, has just arrived from Irwinsville. He struck the train of Davis at Dublin, Lawrence County, on the evening of the 7th, and followed him closely day and night through the pine wilderness of Alligator Creek and Green Swamp via Cumberlandville, to Irwinsville. At Cumberlandville Col. Hardin met Col. Pritchard with 150 picked men and horses of the 4th Michigan. Hardin followed the trail direct to the south, while Pritchard, having fresh horses, pushed down the Oemulgee towards Hopewell, and thence by Horse Creek to Irwinsville, arriving there at midnight.

On the 9th Jeff. Davis had not arrived. From a citizen Pritchard learned that his party were encamped two miles out of the town. He made disposition of his men and surrounded the camp before day.

Hardin had encamped at 9 p.m. within two miles, as he afterwards learned, from Davis, the trail being too indistinct to follow. He pushed on at 3 a.m. and had gone but a little more than a mile when his advance was fired upon by men of the 4th Michigan. A fight ensued, in which both parties exhibited the greatest determination. Fifteen minutes elapsed before the mistake was discovered.

The firing in this skirmish was the first warning Davis received. The captors report that he hastily put on one of his wife's dresses and started for the woods, closely followed by our men, who at first thought him a woman, but seeing his boots while he was running, they suspected his sex at once. The race was a short one, and the rebel President was soon brought to bay. He brandished a bowie knife and showed signs of battle, but yielded promptly to the persuasion of Colt's revolvers without compelling the men to fire.

He expressed great indignation at the energy with which he was pursued, saying that he had believed our government too magnanimous to hunt down women and children.

Mrs. Davis remarked to Col. Hardin, after the excitement was over, that the men had better not provoke the President, or he might hurt some of them.

Regan behaved himself with dignity and resignation. The party evidently were making for the coast.

(signed) J. H. Wilson,
Brevet Maj. Gen.

CAPTURE OF JEFFERSON DAVIS.

War Department.
Washington, May 13, 1865.

To Major Gen. Dix:

The following dispatch has just been received from Gen. Wilson announcing the surprise and capture of Jeff Davis and staff by Col. Pritchard and the 4th Michigan cavalry on the morning of the 10th inst., at Irwinville, Irwin county, Ga.

(Signed)

E. M. Stanton.
Sec. of War.

Macon, Ga., May 12th.

To Hon. E. M. Stanton:

The following dispatch announcing the capture of Jeff. Davis, has just been handed to me by Col. Mentz, commanding the 2d district:

HEADQUARTERS, 4TH MICHIGAN CAVALRY,
GUMBERLAND, GA, May 11th.

SIR: I have the honor to report that at daylight yesterday at Irwinsville I surprised and captured Jeff Davis and family, together with his wife and sisters and mother, his Postmaster Gen. Regan, his private secretary Col. Harrison, Col. Johnson, aide-de camp on Davis' staff, Col. Morris, and Lieut. Anthony. Also, several important names and a train of five wagons and three ambulances, making a most perfect success had not a most unfortunate mistake occurred, by which the 4th Mich. and 1st Wisconsin came in conflict we should have done better.--The mistake cost us two killed, and Lt. Bowles wounded in the arm, of the 4th Michigan, and one wounded of the 1st Wisconsin. They were mistaken for the rebels. I returned to this point last night, and shall move right on to Macon without further order from you, feeling that the whole object of the expedition is accomplished.

It will take me at least three days to reach Macon, and we are 75 miles out, and our stock is much exhausted. I hope to reach Hawkinsville tonight.

I have the honor to be,
E D PRITCHARD.
Lient. Col. 4th Michigan Cav.

The first Wisconsin belongs to Logan's brigade of McCook's division, and had been sent due east by Gen. Croxton--Col. Minby had dismounted his command all along the south bank of the Ocmulgee and Alta-maha. This accounts for the collision between parts of the 1st and 2d divisions, and shows the zeal of the command in pursuit. I have directed measures of vigilance on the part of the command, in the hope of catching the other assassins.

Our disposition of men is good, and so far none of the rebel chiefs have been able to get through. Ereckinridge's son was captured night before last eleven miles south of here.

I will send further details as soon as received. (Signed)

J. H. Wilson,
Brevet Maj Gen.

ARMY CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM THE 58TH REGIMENT.

PROVOST MARSHAL'S OFFICE,
MOUND CITY, ILL., AUG. 1, 1863.

DEAR EDITOR:—Our regiment received marching orders and left Camp Butler on the 19th of June, and arrived at Cairo on the 20th. Our company was immediately detached from the remainder of the Regiment, on Provost duty at this place, and the remainder of the regiment on duty at Cairo.

And as we have but one commissioned officer with the company, I consequently have command of all the troops here, except those in the United States Hospital, and the Lieutenant is Provost Marshal of the city.

This is now one of the most important places in the West, as there is a very large United States General Hospital here, which has about eight hundred of the sick soldiers from Vicksburg. A large arsenal, filled with powder, ball, shells, besides the great "ways" where gunboats are built, and all kinds of steamboats are repaired, which is very essential for the good of the navy.

This city is very beautiful situated on the bluff of the Ohio, six miles above Cairo.— The inhabitants are generally Union people, although we find many secesh and copperheads. the society here is generally of the best class, and of course we feel perfectly at home, and why should we not, after an acquaintance of six weeks with the fair girls of Southern Egypt, and having the pleasure of attending all the pic-nics, parties, &c., which are so numerous here.

I attended a pic-nic day before yesterday, which proved a grand affair. We had a large swing, which was principally represented by that class that do not altogether approve of dancing and other frivolous plays. Even playing and dancing (which are the principal amusements in this section) was the leading features of the programme of the day, and, in short, everything passed off lovely.

We are under the command of Gen. Buford, who we are proud to say, is a gentleman and a soldier's friend, and shows great respect to all under his command.

We are still rejoicing over the many successive victories that has recently crowned our gallant army, and things now look much brighter to us all; and we look forward with hopes soon to see a speedy close of this inhuman civil war, and again have the pleasure of greeting our old friends in a land of "LIBERTY," and when all the citizens of the United States will be obliged, as our late and great Douglas has said, to "Obey the laws and constitution of his country."

"Sagely" yours, EUGENE,
Orderly Serg't Co. E, 58th Ills. Vols.

FROM THE 1&TH REGIMENT.

We are permitted to make the following extract from a letter written by a member of the 17th Regiment to a friend in Mercer county:

VICKSBURG, JULY 26, 1863

The health of the troops is tolerable good at present, but not so good now as a month ago. The weather is very hot and the water is poor. I arrived here (or rather outside of the fortifications, where our regiment was camped) on the 26th of June, just one month ago to day. Was very unwell ever since till the last week. Everything around here looks naked and deserted, and shows very plainly the effect that starving soldiers will produce. There is no doubt but what they lived on mule meat the last day or two. The citizens had nothing to live on at all, but had to draw rations from the government as soon we got possession and regulated so we could issue them. The soldiers were getting tired of fighting; at least one-half of them said that they would never fight again if they could help it. According to the surrender Grant had to parole them and send them all out of the lines. Many are deserting and returning to take the oath and go home; and many of them live inside of our lines, in Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, and parts of all, or nearly all the States that those troops were from. I hardly know what to write to you to interest you, because everything is going on here in the usual way. Government is granting furloughs at the rate of five per cent. on all enlisted men.

B. J. D.

LETTER FROM EDMAN SPANGLER — HE ASSERTS HIS ENTIRE INNOCENCE

(Taken from the Oct. 25, 1865, edition of The Weekly Record, Aledo, Ill.)

Fort Jefferson, Tortugas
Island, Sept. 15, 1865

My dear friend:

I take my pen in hand to rite to you these feu lines to let you know that I am well and hope you are the same this is a purty hard place to live the sun is very hot and whe have hard grub, salt horse and one piece of bread whe some times gets soup there is some small fish in the break water that we can catch from our cell window but we have no fish hooks small enough here and have no money to send for thim there is a sutlers store here you can get any thing you want if you have the money there is about 500 Prisoners here, who have the privleige of going over the whole island it is about 13 actes of sand and some feu trees I am at work at my trade. You have no doubt been acquainted with the facts and circumstances connected with my trial and sentence and imprisonment. Nothing that I can say or do can alter the opinion of the world or the Public. Before God and all that is sacred I am perfectly innocent of all the charges and specifications brought against me by the prosecution. I had no knowledge or idea of enything nor did I aid or assist the villian or the assassin of the President eiter before or after the assanation you know that I was not more intimate than others that around him not as much as some of them. He asked me to see to his horses wich I did he said that he would make me a hansomid presen. wich he did, six years on the Hand of Dry Tortugas I never enjoyed his confidence or his faver except occasionally when we met at a restaurant he would ask me to have something to drink, I had no-thing to do with him on the evening of the assasination more than any other man similary situated could have. He came to the theater, called me and asked if I could hold his horse, wich I declined for the reason I had my work to attend to on the stage. I called Peanut John to hold his horse, who held him until he came out after murdering the President. I did not know what had taken place until the deed had bin committed and Booth made his escape from the theater. I never shut the door after his escape nor did I know what had taken place until the deed had bin committed and Booth made his escape from the theater. I never shut the door after his escape nor did I know nor had any thing to do with the mortice in the wall or boring the whole or the fixing of the bar of the door, or loosing the screws all this I was charged with as being guilty or suspicioned of having done but before God who I know will find me accountable if I knieu nothing or herd nothing about the existenc of any such a thing until after the assasination when I was asked concerning it all the evidence in my case is known I leave it to all honest and unprejudical people to judge of my innocense or guilt Grate injustice has been done me by some false witnesses from whom expreses prior to my trial acted by gain or reward. I wish you would see-----and see whether he ever received my statement that I sent him with a young man by

the name of welch. and if he has to let me know what he is going to do with it please and send me some small fish hooks some 2 or three fly hooks in a letter and money to buy some postage stamps and some paper there is a regiment here to guard the place Give my love to all my enquiring Friends and let me know what they think of me I am here suffering here which I am innocently yours Most Respectfully

Edman Spangler

* * * * *

The above letter, which was discovered in the Aledo Weekly Record, and was re-printed in a nationally-syndicated column not long ago (Tuesday, March 24, 1970) tells how one man felt after being confined for his alleged part in the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln. Mr. Spangler, whose first name was Edman, was called "Ned" at the Ford's Theater where he worked as a scene shifter.

When John Wilkes Booth rode a mare down the alley behind Ford's Theater, John Miles, who worked high in the theater, was able to look down and out and see Booth. Miles heard Booth call for Spangler,

Miles saw Spangler leave his post from behind the scenes and go out the back door. Miles assumed Booth wanted Spangler to hold his horse. Spangler kept pointing in toward the theater, and then he went inside and sent a boy named Johnny Peanuts to hold Booth's mare.

For this, a military court sent Spangler to the Dry Tortugas, a strip of sand west of Key West, from where the above letter was written. Others accused of being involved in the plot were sent there, too--those who weren't hanged.

In August of 1867, Yellow Fever broke out at Dry Tortugas. Spangler was freed in February of 1869, dying of tuberculosis. Another prisoner there, also accused in the Lincoln assassination, a Dr. Mudd (who was accused of putting a splint on Booth's broken leg) was paroled the same year. Dr. Mudd took Spangler to his home in Maryland and took care of the patient until he died.

Not long ago, another letter was discovered in old, dusty files from the newspapers of the same period. It is not known who wrote this letter, which gives more information on the prisoners at Dry Tortugas Island. The letter follows.

It should be noted that both letters are re-printed here just as they were written--including punctuation and misspelled words.

(From the Weekly Record, Aledo, Ill., Wednesday, April 18, 1866)

DRY TORTUGAS PRISONERS

Fortress Monroe, April 5

By conversing with several discharged prisoners from the Dry Tortugas, I have obtained full particulars touching the present condition, health, and varied employments of the assassination conspirators against President Lincoln, now undergoing imprisonment there.

Dr. Mudd, since his attempt to escape by concealing himself in the coal bunker of a steamer, has not been able to revive the confidence reposed in him previous to that time. He is still kept under close guard, and compelled to clean out bastions in the casemates of the fort, and do some of the most menial and degrading work required to be done. Instead of becoming reconciled to his lot, he grows more discontented and querulous. Never very robust, he is now but little better than a mere skeleton, and his growing emaciation shows how bitterly his spirit chafes under his imprisonment, and how deeply the iron pierces his soul--His constant prayer is for death, which alone can set him free. It is natural he should suffer more than his colleagues in crime.--The most intelligent of them all, and in the associations and habits of his former life greatly lifted above them, he is so much the more the keenest sufferer now. But there is none to pity him. All keep aloof from him.

Arnold is employed as clerk of Capt. Van Reade, Post Adjutant. An uncommonly fine penman and accurate accountant--his profession will be remembered as that of a bookkeeper--and well behaved and modest, and yielding in his demeanor, he grows in usefulness and popularity each day. A guard attends him to his meals, which are the same as the other prisoners, and at night he is in close custody. His behavior shows that he appreciates his position, and that he does not, like Dr. Mudd, intend to abuse the confidence placed in him and lose it.--His health is good.

Spangler is at work in the Quartermaster's carpenter shop. Already he begins to count the years, months, and days remaining to complete his term of imprisonment. He is robust and jolly--a physical condition he attributes, however, solely to his being innocent of any participancy in the dreadful crime charged against him.

In striking contrast to the persons I have referred to is Col. Marmaduke, found guilty of the noted conspiracy to free the prisoners at Camp Douglas and burn Chicago. He has charge of the post garden. In respect to manual labor, no royal gardener has an easier time. Like the lilies of the field, he toils not. His only business is to see that those under him work. He has the privilege of going outside the fort at any time between reveille and sunset. He does not evidently allow his prison life to interfere seriously with his health or spirits, both are excellent. In the extent of freedom allowed him, he is very much given to putting on the airs of a fine gentleman and walks and struts about like one on the very best terms with himself and the world.

(there is no indication as to
who wrote the above letter)

1. The first part of the report is a general introduction to the subject of the study. It discusses the importance of the study and the objectives of the research. It also mentions the scope of the study and the limitations of the research.

2. The second part of the report is a literature review. It discusses the previous studies on the subject and identifies the gaps in the existing knowledge. It also mentions the theoretical framework of the study and the hypotheses that were tested.

3. The third part of the report is the methodology section. It describes the research design, the sample, the data collection methods, and the data analysis techniques. It also mentions the ethical considerations of the study and the measures taken to ensure the validity and reliability of the results.

4. The fourth part of the report is the results section. It presents the findings of the study in a clear and concise manner. It includes tables and figures to illustrate the data and discusses the statistical significance of the results. It also mentions the limitations of the study and the implications of the findings.

5. The fifth part of the report is the conclusion section. It summarizes the main findings of the study and discusses the implications for future research. It also mentions the practical applications of the study and the contributions of the research to the field.

FROM THE 27TH REGIMENT.

CAMP ROBERTS, BRIDGPORT, ALA.

August 11, 1863.

DEAR EDITOR:--About three weeks ago I wrote you a few lines concerning the race we have been having after Bragg, and closed with the promise of resuming the subject again, whenever a favorable opportunity should occur. When I last wrote we were encamped on the top on the Cumberland Mountains in Tennessee, at a place known as the University of the South. The place contained a few rough wooden buildings and ruins of one or two others that had been used for a theological institution. It was the design of the chivalry to build some extensive buildings at this place. The corner stone of the college was laid in 1860. Right Reverend Bishop Polk, since Major General in the rebel army, was master of the ceremony. But the rebellion interfered with their designs and the building has progressed but little beyond the laying of the corner stone. This stone was a large block of Tennessee marble, beautifully polished; but the genius of Yankee soldiers has materially changed its future.-- Our boys broke it to pieces and worked it up into thousands of little trinkets in the shape of books, breast-pin sets, finger rings, &c.-- some lucky fellow appropriating about \$92.00 American coin and some other relics which had been sealed up inside the stone.-- The true soldier is never idle, and when nothing else is furnished for him to do you will always find him busy with the jack knife, whittling out a powder horn, a brier root pipe, with Shiloh or Stone River cut on the boll, or else filing out a shell ring. Each of these designs have had their run in the 27th; next came the corner stone of the University of the South, and now that is worked up, I am puzzled to know what next is to be whittled, but am sure the boys are not going to be long idle. The locality of the University was a very quiet as well as sightly place.-- The height of the mountain always insured a cool breeze, while the shady grove kept out the burning rays of the sun. The numerous springs of as good water as can be procured anywhere is not the least of the attractions of the place. The top of the mountain, where we crossed, is eight or ten miles broad, and quite level, even swampy in places; indeed it was on the top of the mountain that we found the worst roads, and had the greatest difficulty in getting our artillery through.

After about three weeks rest at the University of the South we made a further advance into Dixie, and we are "back to Alabama again," after an absence of nearly eleven months, with no strong desire of retreating to Nashville again this fall, at the rate of twenty-five miles a day, and there remaining blockaded from the rest of the civilized world for three months, as we did last year. To us prospects are a little more encouraging than they were a year ago. We occupied the formidable works at this place on the last day of July, the accommodating rebels having left them for our use some time before, while they "fell back for water" across the Tennessee, or left in search of the last ditch, still further South. Our journey, the distance of twenty-five miles, was accomplished in a day and a half,

with but few incidents worthy of mention, except another of those fine showers, of which each of the first twenty days of this campaign furnished a specimen not soon to be forgotten by the army of the Cumberland. It took us a few days to recover from the effects of fast traveling in coming down hill, as we had but little chance to pick our way, and the road was in many places very steep. After leaving the mountains we came into a valley which had some specimens of tall corn, but not more than one-half the lands were cultivated, and the greater part of the planters seem to have left with the rebel army, taking with them all the citizens of African descent. This is one of the richest valleys in the Southern Confederacy, and will be no small loss to the rebs. Last year, when we were in this valley, the fields were white with cotton, but this year not a field can be seen. We did not meet with a single cotton field after passing ten miles beyond our lines at Murfreesboro.

The rebel works at this place are quite strong, but not so extensive as the workd at Tullahoma. The bridge, which once reached from this bank of the river to the island in the middle of the stream, and which was about twelve hundred feet long, we found partially destroyed; also the log cabins in which the rebs once dwelt, and the town, too, if there ever was one here, were burned down. We here found, for the first time in our travals, friendly rebel pickets. The rebs are posted on the island, wwithin four hundred yards of our men; they do not fire at us as they formerly did, but come out in the open ground and have long chats with our boys. This is something new to us and some one is hallooing across at them all the time. Some of them say they are tired of the war, and none talk very encouragingly of their prospects.

The 27th is now using up the last year of its enlistment, and we feel confident now, if all things work well, we shall see the end of the rebellion by the expiration of our time.- Nothing appears more encouraging than the change of sentiment which is taking place among the poor soldiers of the South, who are beginning to open their eyes to the fact that they are going to gain nothing by this slaveholders' rebellion. They are tired of their hardships, and are deserting every day. I can give no correct estimate of the number of deserters who have escaped to our lines during this campaign, but think it must be immense, as our brigade alone picked up as high as sixty in a day, and they still continue to come in, but not in such great number.

Gold at Atlanta is selling at \$11.00, which is a privates pay per month in the rebel army. The rebel pickets say it is hard to have to work for only one gold dollar a month. The people we found in the mountain country are generally loyal, but very ignorant. I think it would be no exaggeration to say that not over one in ten of the men, women and children who thronged our camp, in the capacity of peddlers, while we were at the University of the South, could read the money we gave them for their truck. And this ignorance is due to the precious institution of slavery, which, like a black orb, hangs over the State, shutting out from the common people the rays of truth and knowledge. In the country we passed through, from Murfreesboro to this place, the land is generally too poor to support the institution, and hence the people are not cursed with the actual presence of slavery so much as in some sections, yet common schools, that guardian of a free government, are never encouraged in a slave State.

We have now traveled four times entirely across the State of Tennessee, beside riding from Island No. 10 to Fort Pillow, on the river, and we have scouted so much through the State in different directions, that I am far better acquainted with this than with my native State, or any other in the Union, and I have yet to see the first school house, excepting in the city of Nashville, where I understand, the free schools have been an ornament to the city. Perhaps we have passed at different times a dozen old log buildings, with rude plank seats or benches in them, but on inquiry of the inhabitants I always learned the building in question was a meeting house, and a long while ago somebody kept school in it.

We are now one hundred and twenty miles south of Nashville, and now have more confidence in old "Rosa" than ever, for the unparalleled success of this campaign is due to nothing so much as to our great chief knowing how, where and when to strike. With difficulties before him in the shape of bad roads, deep mud and water, and almost constant rain for twenty days, which would have turned back a general of less perseverance; but he had made up his mind that something could be done, and he was determined to do it, while his men, with but little to eat, felt willing to press on as long as such results could be accomplished.

Our brigade (the 3d) and the 1st brigade of Sheridan's division are here. Our camp is named in honor of Col. Roberts of the 42d Illinois, who fell while commanding our brigade at Stone River. The camp of the 2d brigade, at Stevenson, is named Camp Harrington, in honor of our own lamented Colonel, who fell in the same battle.

Since I wrote before our knapsacks have come up, and all hands have now clean shirts, a luxury in which none indulged for forty-three days. We have a train of cars here every other day. We forage all the green corn, apples and peaches we can possibly eat, from the deserted rebel plantations.

We are again under marching orders, and if we commence a new campaign, you may expect to hear occasionally from

Yours truly, S. B. ATWATER,
Ord'y Serg't, Co. G 27th Ill. Vol. Inf'y.

FROM THE 14TH CALALRY.

CAMP NEAR SOMERSET, KY. August 10, 1863.

DEAR EDITOR:-- Thinking a short account of the race after, and final capture of the notorious scoundrel, Morgan, by one who took an active part in the affair, might be interesting to you, as patriotic old Mercer was duly represented, I sit me down beneath the shade of one of Kentucky's grand old oaks, feeling for the first time within the last two months that I may, perhaps, be able to finish this letter without having my ears greeted with the familiar sounds of boots and saddles. After a fruitless search of three weeks through lower Kentucky, through mud and mire, mire and mud, over hills and rocks, over rapid and swollen rivers, through torrents of rain, and under the bleaching rays of a burning sun, we were at last gratified with the pleasing intelligence that John, naughty John, was still alive, and enjoying himself over in Indiana, trading horses, dealing gently in green backs, saw mills, grist mills, buggies, and sundry

other articles, too numerous to mention. We also received orders to follow in pursuit. Although he left no foot-prints in the sand, he left many bridges in the river, and a few houses in ashes; so we had no difficulty in finding his whereabouts.

On the 14th of July we reached Louisville, and embarked on a fleet of twenty streamers for Portsmouth. Our boys were overjoyed at the prospect of a ride on the beautiful Ohio. We landed at Portsmouth on the 16th, and in one hour were mounted and on the march. Now comes the tug of war.- John Morgan, the man who had for two years been such a terror to Kentucky, and who had so long eluded the grasp of justice, was just ahead of us. On we pushed to Webster; he was not here. On we went to Porter; he was not here; but we would no doubt find him at Centreville. On we went, and after running our horses four miles, succeeded in planting our artillery upon an eminence over-looking the principal highways to the place and bringing our cavalry into line of battle. After all we were disappointed. Some friend of Johns and Vil lain-I-am him (alias Vallandigham) having no doubt apprised him of our presence. He took another route. Cursing that cowardly, mean and disloyal portion of the Democratic party in Ohio, we again mounted our horses and followed on. Darkness came, and daylight went; still on we rode. We reached Pomeroy. Here we snatched a morsel from the hands of the noble hearted ladies, who had everything to eat we could desire. God bless their kind hearts. May the single ones soon realize a happy Union, and the older ones live in peace and contentment all the days of their lives. Fast, fast, faster, we rode until 3 a. m., when we halted to take a moment's rest, dismounted, and laid down in the dust and dirt, where Colonels, Majors, Captains, Lieutenants, and last, but not least of all, (by any means,) High Privates, lay snoring soundly in five minutes.

At daylight we were aroused by the pleasing intelligence that we were within a short distance of Morgan's camp. We surmount the highest hill we have yet, and find ourselves on Buffington Island. Below we see the forces of Morgan, composed of over four thousand of the very flower of the Southern army, drawn up in line of battle, ready to meet us. The advance consisted of the advance guard, General Judah, Staff and escort, one section of Henshaw's Ottawa Battery, and one belonging to the 5th Indiana. The 5th Indiana cavalry, and the 14th Illinois, both under command of Col. Capron, of our regiment, composed the main body. The 11th Kentucky, and 8th and 9th Michigan, were also partially represented. While the guns were on their way to the summit of this last steep hill, orders were sent back to hasten the artillery to the front, which order was promptly obeyed by Capt. Henshaw, as good an officer as ever manned a battery. The first piece that came up was rushed to the front and descended part way into the narrow road through which lay our route, without waiting for mate or caisson. On our left two regiments, under Basil Duke, were drawn up in line of battle, extending half a mile. On a step of the ascent was planted a piece of rebel artillery, that commanded hill and river.- Here it was that Major McCook received his death wound. Gallant and noble hearted old hero, he will long live in the memory of all our regiment. He came into our ranks, as a citizen, at Portsmouth, with his rifle

swung on his shoulder, ready to sacrifice his life for the benefit of his country. One would hardly suppose that where such noble hearts existed there could be found one in sympathy with those mauring traitors; but, alas! we found it too true. And I want J. B. Danforth and the editor of the Chicago Times to distinctly understand that the men who intend to vote for C. L. Vallandigham, the man for whom they have felt and exhibited so much party sympathy, actually gave aid and comfort to John Morgan on his way through Ohio; and all the consolation they will have in after years will be the thought that they assisted in making desolate the homes of these noble men. ('Tis pity, but 'tis true)

When the artillery came up within twenty yards of the escort, orders were sent back to halt. The advance piece was immediately prepared for action. To hasten the preparations Capt. Henshaw had dismounted, and while busily engaged the escort and advance guard--which it is no more than justice to Col. Capron to say were not composed of Illinois boys--came rushing back in great disorder, throwing down in their fight Capt. Henshaw, his cannoneers and horses, and flying on in violent disorder. Capt. Henshaw, bruised, bleeding, and, strange to say, still alive, rose from under the trampling hoofs of a hundred horses, and staggered the fence. This he succeeded in partly throwing down, thinking the flying horsemen would form as a support in the rear of his artillery; but he was sadly mistaken. The rebels steadily advanced, rapidly firing, and captured the officer and gun. This left the artillery without any support, the main body being yet some distance in the rear. This check was but momentary. The gallant cavalry under Col. Capron and Lieut. Col. Butler, of the 5th Indiana, dashed rapidly forward, under cover of the fire of a gun of Henshaw's Battery and two guns of the 5th Indiana cavalry, and matters at once assumed a different aspect.--The remarkable precision of the artillery under Morrison and Rhodes, the well managed fire of Lieut. Kilborn's howitzers, belonging to the 14th, the rapid dash of Col. Capron's command were too much for the great guerrilla chieftain, and in twenty minutes after the capture of Capt. Henshaw and gun the whole rebel force was in full retreat, and our cavalry in hot pursuit. With our weary and jaded horses we spurred on until we drove the rebels into the hands of Hobson and Shackleford. In less than one hour we had Capt. Henshaw back, his gun, and all the rebel artillery, amounting in all to five pieces. We captured in all on this day one thousand men. Morgan eluded for the time our grasp, and made his escape. At the time the retreat began he was sitting in a carriage. He soon got out of that, mounted, and, as usual, skedaddled. I wish here to state that the gun-boat lying in the river first began her firing after the enemy had been routed by Judah's forces, after the second line of battle had been formed, two miles in the rear of the attack, after Judah's artillery had fired from twenty to thirty rounds, after the fighting had been done and the retreat commenced. The rebels had in this engagement one hundred and fifty men killed and wounded. We lost three killed and had from twenty-five to thirty wounded. The fight took place on Sunday. We remained here, guarding prisoners, until Tuesday, when we marched to Chesshire, thirty-five miles below, on the river.

Here a command was immediately formed from parts of regiments, amounting to eight hundred men, under command of Gen. Shackleford.

Morgan was then within six miles of Gallipolis, and supposed to be trying to get across the river. We headed him off, and by marching constantly day and night we, on Friday, came up with his rear guard, with which we had constant skirmishing all day.— We kept close in his rear until Sunday morning, when we came up with his main force, three miles south of New Lisbon, O., and after a short engagement at Salineville, in which he lost twenty men, we succeeded in surrounding him, at the former place, and effected a capture. The scene which followed his capture can be more easily imagined than described. Such a cursing of Yankees on one side, and such a jollification of Yankees on the other side, was never seen. The first prisoners we took, at Buffington Island, were fine looking men, evidently sons of wealthy Southerners; but the last were a hard looking lot; none of them acted as if they wanted to fight much. At four o'clock on Sunday afternoon, July 27th, we put the last of this gang of noted robbers on board the cars at Salineville, and sent them by Express to Gov. Tod.

Thus ended a long and tedious march of many sleepless nights; nights which I spent thinking of everything I could to keep from falling off my horse and being trampled beneath the feet of a hundred horses. We never should have endured this march through Ohio if it had not been for the kindness of its noble hearted ladies. It is a pleasure to fight for such.

We leave this camp at 10 o'clock to-night for Glasgow, our former headquarters. There we shall remain until we are paid off, and then we go to Southern Tennessee. Our whole brigade, consisting of between five and six thousand cavalry, will march on or about the 20th of this month.

I shall make no excuses for my writing, but simply say I am only tired. I am writing on an old box cover, which the wind keeps in constant motion. Hoping I may get where I can sit down some day and write you a more respectable letter, I am, most truly, yours,

C. S.

Mercer county boys fat, healthy and saucy.

FROM THE 27TH REGIMENT.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Oct. 16, '63.

DEAR EDITOR:—As there are strange things turning up every day, down here in Dixie, I make hold to send you one of the latest, which will prove conclusively that the school-master has not yet been abroad in these regions.

The following ballad was copied from the original manuscript, which is now in the possession of one of the fair daughters of the Southern Confederacy, and can be procured verbatim et literatim, if required.

The readers of your paper will please observe that it is orthographically and etymologically original, and also that it displays great originality of idea. It is supposed to have been written soon after the surrender of Fort Donelson.

OLD HICKMAN BOYS

Old Hickman boys I, ll tell to you
our fate is awful but is true
the north and South wonce wore a yoake
but now the tye's for every broke

It was in the year of sixty one
thos bluddy battles first begun
and you the boys of Tennessee
in to action soon must bee

The cause of this war I say to you
our leaders tha did not prove true
for officers to them came two slow
and now to the battle field you go

But ah my boys to see you start
and leave so meny broken harts
to leave your wives and children deer
pore broken harts tha swim in tears

But ah my boys wee do learn
the scale with you was forced to turn
for on thursday morning a bout day
your orders was to march away

To the battle field you then did fly
whear the noble and the brave did die
thar stained with blood did gain a name
of darring courredge and lofty fam

You faught them brave till Saturday Knight
and did the yankees put flight
But a las the north did rain a shour
which did your army over power

The flag of surnder then came up
which was to you a bitter cup
then you did hear your Jenarel say
ground your armes tha have gained the day

Now may the god of heven a bove
look down on all of you with love
and send you back to them you a dore
to live in peace for ever more

Rorering canions close thy mouth
and give sweet peace to the suney south
on wings peace wonts more fly
to the one I love before I die

Lut. T. H. Greer to miss molley Ellis

Yours respectfully,
WILLIAM H. McCOY
Company G, 27th Ills. Infantry.

FROM THE 102D REGIMENT.

CAMP STEWART'S CREEK, TENN. Oct. 23, 1863.

DEAR EDITOR:--Having spent a few days in the North I feel privileged to say that no one can so well appreciate a visit to America, as one who had been deprived the pleasure of seeing wife, children, father, mother, sister and brothers, during a term of soldiering in "Dixie land." The sensation is almost too great for even soldier nerves when first one sets foot on the north bank of the Ohio, and feels that military restraint is for a time withheld and swift running engines stand ready to convey us to our friends and over the broad prairies of our beloved Illinois.-- Such were the joys we experienced when this glorious privilege was granted us, for which we must ever feel thankful, and from which we acknowledge the receipt of much good, solid enjoyment.

There are many sunny spots strewn along the pathway of life, marking distinctly the course pursued, and offering many cozy little resting places as memory treads back, over the lengthening journey of life; and this spot must ever shine out brightly from the dark clouds that intervene between us and those dear ones far away in the "North land," and for a time pierced the murky veil and opened to view the peaceful landscape beyond.

While our country seems, from the magnitude of the work before it, to be exerting its most giant strength for existence, it is cheering to us, a soldier, to meet friends and companions surrounded with comfort and security, provided with every necessary of life, and far removed from the ravages of war. The rigidity of our nature, strengthened by many hardships and privations, melts away when surrounded by those dear ones at home, and we seem to live over again the happy days gone by, when we were not a soldier, and our country knew no war.

We see evidence in the North of a growing strength for our country, and a willingness to assist it in this, its time of need.-- With a few exceptions there seems a willingness on the part of Northerners to do all in their power to assist those who have gone to fight the battles of our country. This is as it should be; a soldier who has left all, and is braving the hardships and dangers of war, is cheered to know that, though his neighbors may not be with him in the ranks, they are with him in feeling; and when he chances to be permitted to visit his home, though burned from exposure, and his coat of "blue" the worse for wear, is received as a brother, he is repaid for many hardships through which he has passed, and returns to duty and danger, feeling better for having been there.

The North is by no means idle in this great work. Ohio has come out of the battle all covered with glory, while the vanquished foe hide themselves for shame. Her praise is on every tongue, soldiers who were ready to fly to her relief and drive from her border the treacherous horde who seemed to threaten her existence, now feel that she is safe in whose hands she rests, and confidently trust her there; and turn to a field wherein they

may operate in common with their brothers, in driving treason from "Dixie land."

We gain confidence at every step taken by the Administration; not that it cannot err, as all things mortal are liable to do; but there seems to be nothing done too soon, nothing left undone too long; but as the people become prepared to receive and perform it is given to them. Our combined strength is becoming a mighty fulcrum, and the lever firmly held and surely applied, must soon overthrow this unnatural rebellion, and compel those whose motives are too devilish for human heart to conceive, humble bow and obey the laws impartially administered to them and us.

It is not confined to the North alone that we see evidence of strength and confidence in our Government growing; but in Southern States assurance is added to hope, and confidence to long deferred expectation. Let her sister States do as well as Ohio has done, and from under a load of guilt (now wholly her own) come out with their dignity untarnished, their devotion and loyalty unimpaired, and the battles that slay our brave men by thousands will all have been fought, and our Government honorably, gloriously, and patriotically saved. Let each State vie with each other in proving to her sons in the field their true devotedness to the country and their willingness to sustain it, and all is safe; there need be no draft to terrify traitors or take them from homes our arms have so nobly protected, notwithstanding it would seem just and right that each State should furnish for the army of the Union, or that of "Jeff. Davis," the number of men whose votes were given for disloyal men; yet we will graciously permit them, though undeserving they are, to enjoy the privilege of remaining at home and of reaping the fruits of our labor, yet less deserving they be, than those we have come here to fight, and force to respect the laws they blindly trample upon.

Treason in Tennessee or Alabama is less sinful than the mildest form of the so-called "Copperhead" doctrines of the North. We have a degree of respect for a Southern man, who was assailed from all sides, and by bribery, persuasion and compulsion, forced to take up arms against the Government; but for disloyal men of the North there is nothing we can conceive of more loathsome; no man in whom we would not sooner trust our pecuniary effects, or private character, none in whom there is not some redeeming quality or reasonable excuse for the crime committed; but for them there is a day of judgment coming. Unless they repent and get forgiveness from an injured and indulgent Government, a speedy punishment must overtake them..

We find, on coming to our miniature encampment, that it was not pillaged, and our company captured or driven off, as was currently reported in Mercer county. Neither was the bridge burned, or a timber of it displaced, but trains continue to pass and re-pass in perfect safety. This little camp has not been without its share of excitement, and confident expectation of a visit from the rebel raiders during the time they were endeavoring to cut our communications, but with Co. A, of our regiment, and a section of the 20th Indiana battery, were ready and willing to punish any one who would molest them or the property they were placed here to protect. Co. A has returned to their former encampment. The two guns

are still here, with some thirty men, in command of Lt. Morris, of said battery.

The troops are all in excellent health, but one man of our company excused from duty on account of sickness. The boys have quite a heavy job of work before them in the way of entrenching round the stockade, which, when done, must to its strength.

No news from the front this morning.

We see by the paper to-day that Gen. Rosecrans was present at the Theatre in Nashville last night, and was the center of attraction there.

We hear with sadness that our esteemed friend and companion, L. Volney Willets, was wounded on the 11th inst., near Chattanooga, while a fight seems to have been going on between sharpshooters across the Tennessee river. His wound is severe, and caused the amputation of a leg below the knee.— He has the sympathy of his entire company, and a better soldier never lived. This will put an end to his duties in this direction, and we wish for him a speedy recovery and a return to family and friends.

The weather is quite cold, and a portion of the time wet; but by dint of perseverance and "Yankee" ingenuity our boys are getting excellent quarters, and prepared to meet all kinds of weather.

We received the Record today, of the 13th inst., and see that I was charged with leaving Mercer with a quantity of "plunder" for the boys. Now with us the term is quite significant, and lest the boys think I have been "cramping" while visiting my home, it would have made the matter look in better light to have told them that I had quite a quantity of clothing, &c., for them, which, by the by, Mr. Expressman, you would confer a great favor by forwarding at the earliest moment.

If this lengthy production seems worth a place in your columns, insert it; if not, the fire can consume it. With wishing many good things for the friends in Mercer, and a weekly visit from the Record, we close.

Yours for the Union,
J. Y. MERRITT.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 23, 1863

DEAR EDITOR:—Hoping that you might not be adverse to receiving and laying before your readers a line from the National Capitol in relation, among other topics, to the duties of the American people, at the present period of the rebellion; although not a resident of your country—yet claiming the right as a citizen of the Congressional District—I desire to occupy a short space in your columns.

It has been deemed necessary by the Government to call upon the people of the country for three hundred thousand more soldiers, not as a dernier resort in the work of saving the country,—the country is in no immediate or even remote danger, croakers to the contrary notwithstanding. This drift, or call, is for the purpose of more speedily ending the rebellion, for lifting some of the weight from the shoulders of our brave boys who are now in the field, for

the economising of some of the national means by shortening the war.-- We are now at that period in our history when we are to know whether the seeming alacrity displayed by our people in responding to call of the country for men and means to suppress rebellion, was, as has been asserted, only the excitement of the moment which would evanesce with the moment, or was the outspeaking of the national heart, firm in its purpose through trial and tempest, as well as in the glare of success, to defend itself and its institutions. American freedom is on trial, it has withstood the first fierce shock of the tempest, but will it continue to stand unshaken in the long continued gale that succeeds.

Citizens of Illinois, much of the affirmative of this answer remains in your hands. If you now gather around the banner of your country as when fired by the reverberations from Fort Sumter in 1861, there will be no danger to our free institutions, if you fail now, freedom does not fail with you, but you will have been found wanting in the day of trial. It is not the pation that in the fervid enthusiasm of a first campaign sends its sons to the bloody field and pours its treasure into the military chest of its commanders, that has proved its worthiness to succeed; but the other nation who, like our fathers in the first Revolution, stood hopeful and firm through years of defeat and disaster, and through an enormous depreciation of their currency.-- We have, as yet, scarcely felt the alarum of war: were it not for our sons, whose graves cover the hillsides of the South, we would not know, from any discomfort we experience, that we were engaged in a bloody strife.

Our Treasury is full and our money scarcely depreciated. Our credit has been such at home, under the able management of the able Secretary of the Treasury, that we have not been called upon to borrow one dollar from any foreign capitalist. Yet we have made our war an expensive one by paying our soldiers more liberally than any people on earth. Now it is proposed by the Government to pay, in the way of bounty, nearly double the sum now expended in the way of bounties to those who enlist, and the expenditure is a wise one, for it is paid to our own people who return it to the Treasury again to be paid out to the soldier. None of it goes as tribute to the money kings of the Old World, none of it to employ the hired soldiery of neighboring nations,--it is our money paid to our people.

Our Copperhead home traitors endeavor to discourage enlistments on the ground that this war has been diverted from its original purpose and made a war to emancipate slaves, and that the change of purpose has led to the most disastrous results, until now we are further from peace than when the first gun was fired on the "Star of the West." Who establishes the purpose of a war, the people who attack, or the people who are attacked? Slavery commenced this war, not for its protection in those States and localities where it then existed, but for its spread and perpetuation in territory then free. Slavery had not been disturbed at home, it had met with no opposition so long as it had confined itself to its hereditary domain, only when it was aggressive and seeking to subvert the soil of freedom to its base purpose did it find the strong hand of liberty raised--not to destroy but to stay it.

Slavery has thus commenced a war that in its progress gives her wounds of which she dies. Thus the whole onus of the war and its purpose rests upon that institution, not on us. But we have made no

progress--says the Copperhead. No progress, indeed, when we have made Missouri as loyal as New York, and when Kentucky has been redeemed, Tennessee wrested from the confederacy, West Virginia and considerable portions of East Virginia redeemed, and more than a foothold obtained in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, Florida and Arkansas. When our foe has to pay his troops with a currency already depreciated almost to the standard of the Revolution, and the depreciation going on at a rate that must ere another twelve month render it entirely worthless.

We have made progress; such progress as no war of the same magnitude ever made, and it now only remains for the people of the country to rally once more around the Flag of the Union, and the victory, now half won, will be secured. Now we can wind up the struggle in a few months, and with a comparatively small sacrifice of life, while any delay on our part will prolong the war and make it far more costly in human life as well as in all the material of war.

Will the people of Mercer county now respond to their country's call as in the first days of their enthusiasm? Will they once more come to the rescue? Let Illinois be the first State to offer her quota to the Government, thus maintaining her now proud reputation. Citizens of Mercer county, do your duty now.

A. M. S.

FROM THE 9TH REGIMENT.

POCAHONTAS, TENN., Oct. 20, 1863.

DEAR EDITOR:— I was depending on your correspondent, "J. G. C.," to write you of our haps and mishaps for a few days past, but as he left camp in company with a part of the regiment to-day, and asked me to write you a little, I will try.

On the evening of the 6th inst., our lieut. Col. Phillips left camp with our regiment, supplied with four days rations and sixty rounds of ammunition for each man. Two pieces of artillery went with him. A long contemplated raid was about to be made, on the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, by the rebel Gen. Chalmers, who has his headquarters almost everywhere south of the Tallahatchie--surrounding circumstances (viz: Yankees) determining this.

Col. Phillips passed to Ripley, twenty-five miles south of here, by night. He learned there that a large force of rebels was west of there, despite the falsehoods of the Ripley people. (Col. Phillips threatens to burn the remainder of their once pretty village for their lying propensities.) He marched from there toward Salem, a small town about thirty-five miles southwest of Pocahontas, and sixteen miles south of Grand Junction.-- When very near the place the regiment suddenly found itself very close to five times its number of rebels. It was night, and Col. Phillips ordered a retreat from the place several miles, quietly and quickly. Being dark, the rebels did not see and improve their opportunity for crushing the little force.

Col. Phillips was reinforced on the following day by the 3d and

9th Illinois cavalry, and the 6th Tennessee. He took command of the whole and led them to Salem, and into action, finding the enemy in battle line.-- He attacked them vigorously, and for a time drove them, but it was only to develop our forces, perhaps, that he gave way, for he suddenly found himself much the strongest in numbers, and making a stand still, turned upon our force and drove it from the field, but are prisoners. Our men fought, as we always with a loss to himself of about one hundred, as we afterward learned, while ours was thirty-five or forty; fifteen of these were of our regiment; several of our severely wounded have done since being mounted, in the skirmish line. It is the least dangerous to us, and bothers the enemy most. The fight lasted about three hours, and was animated.

Lieut. Col. Phillips found the enemy too strong for his force, and only by careful maneuvering was able to bring his command off the field and retreat safely to our lines along the railroad. The enemy failed to pursue his advantages that time also. This happened on the 8th inst.

A concentration of the mounted force of this corps was immediately made at Lagrange and early on the 11th we marched to Salem a second time, but the rascals had gone from there two days before, and we were destined to hunt them up. We marched to Holly Springs, and during the day the booming of artillery told of a battle going on in the direction of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad. It proved to be at Callierville, one of our military posts, not far from Memphis. The enemy was trying to retake it. Our whole cavalry force was formed into two brigades, and Col. Hatch, of the 2d Iowa cavalry, assumed command of the whole. He appointed Lieut. Col. Phillips to command one of the brigades and Lieut. Col. Moyers the other. We then marched in the direction of Colliersville, and on the 12th, when within a few miles of there, found the rebels, 3,000 in number, and mounted, beating a retreat, having been badly flaxed the day previous by 450 vallant fellows, who fought not only for their own safety, but for that of Maj. Gen. Sherman, who happened to be on a train coming eastward that day. The train was in possession of the rebels for a time, and his capture was very nearly complete. His loss to us at the present time would have been immense. Our men made a brilliant charge upon the rebels, who retreated precipitately, leaving one hundred and fifty in killed, wounded and prisoners. Our loss was one hundred and twenty, mostly prisoners.

We, under Col. Hatch, followed and found the rebels in a chosen position near the town of Bybalia, and Col. Phillips' brigade immediately attacked them. The rebels had a strong position, well adapted for planting his artillery, and natural as well as artificial works to protect his dismounted men. Our force fought them, being dismounted. Cavalry charges could not be made advantageously to us. After a spirited contest of two hours, with artillery and small arms by both parties, our men pressing the rebels closely, they fled; but not until they had made one of their accustomed demonstrations as if about to charge upon us. This is a terribly strange way they have of howling, we term it. I must say it has a tendency to make us think of hunting our holes, for in this terrible war, the rebels have made some terrible charges, always accompanied by this terrible howling. Gun-powdered whisky incites them to this.

This time it served their purpose, for we planted ourselves for

the defensive, and they --prepared to mount, and did mount, their fast horses and fled, having been severely punished. Two men of Co. B., of our regiment, were wounded there. One Lieutenant and six men, of the 7th Illinois, were wounded, and Lieutenant Nicholson, of the same, was killed, besides two men of the 7th Kansas, wounded.

Our cavalry pursued them closely, Col. Phillips having ordered them to use the sabre alone. Darkness closed in on the rebels in full retreat, and we camped. Early on the 13th both brigades pursued them vigorously. Our advance skirmished with their rear for a distance of thirty miles, when the rebels made a stand, which was at a little town called Wyatt, on the Tallahatchie river. Chalmers had been camping there lately. On the way we passed through Chullahoma, about fourteen miles southwest of Holly Springs; near there the advance of Col. Moyers' brigade captured Capt. Caruthers of the 12th Tennessee, (Confed.,) two Lieutenants and eleven men, with their horses, arms and other equipments. They mistook our men for Chalmers', we passed so rapidly. At Wyatt we found the rebels reinforced, and with log houses and a trench for protection. We dismounted and moved on his works at about 3 o'clock, p.m., and fought him till after dark in a heavy rain storm. We were obliged to expose ourselves so much that we could not take his position before darkness set in. With his artillery well planted on an eminence, on the south bank of the river, and with every man free to engage in the battle, having no rear to guard nor any horses to hold, all of his men were available, and he should have whipped us badly. Before dark we drove him some, repulsing him in several charges, using our artillery, four two-pound steel pieces and two mountain howitzers, on the log houses. After dark Col. Hatch ordered an advance of our lines, and a part of our forces marched in line of battle through Wyatt, driving all before them to the river. This movement was made so quickly and unexpectedly to the rebels that they left three hundred rifles behind, and seventy-five of their men, failing to cross the river, were made an easy capture.--- They had carried all of their wounded, and a part of their dead, from the field, although fifteen of the latter were left to be buried by our men, which was done on the following morning. In the ratio of killed, as compared with the wounded, their wounded must have been at least sixty-five or seventy. Our loss was six killed, twenty wounded and Capt. Hodgeman, of the 7th Kansas, wounded and a prisoner. A Lieutenant of our regiment was severely wounded in the head. Wm. Mock, of our Company (E) was slightly wounded in the neck by a glancing ball. The dead rebels had been mostly shot through the head, owing to the protection for their limbs. Remarkable as it may seem, true as it is, it is the fact that Maj. Malone, of the 7th Kansas, fell with his horse into a well thirty feet deep, and escaped unhurt. It was while leading his regiment into the battle in the pitchy darkness. On the occasion Col. Phillips laughingly remarked that he had known men to get into ditches and behind trees to avoid the enemy, but had never before known a man to ride into a well thirty feet deep to do it.

Thus Chalmer's great demonstration and raid ended in darkness and blood. His loss in the four battles of Salem, Colliersville, Eyalia and Wyatt was severe. Certainly not less than six hundred men. We brought three commissioned officers and forty men from Wyatt. Col. Hatch paroled many on the way. Much praise is due Cols.

Hatch and Phillips for the earnestness they manifested in the pursuit of these rascals. They are two officers who work together when rebels are at stake with a uniformity that is not common among officers in our army. They have fought together several different times during the past summer. What the one plans the other agrees to, and both execute with a vim. They are brave to a fault. Col. Phillips had a fine steed shot under him at Wyatt. He has been in thirteen different engagements in this war. His faculty for smelling out rebels is remarkable. He found out Chalmers' whereabouts and developed his strength so quickly at Salem, that our whole line from Corinth to Memphis was put on the alert, and thus the enemy was out-generaled.

Much of the infantry of this corps, partly from Corinth and Memphis, was sent to aid in the capture, under Gen. Sweeney, but infantry can't catch mounted rebels. On our return, as ordered by the commanding General, we laid waste much of the country beyond Holly Springs, and brought over five hundred head of cattle and sheep to our lines. It is severe on some innocent ones, but seems to be the only way.

Our regiment reached camp on the 18th, having been gone 12 days. Our long-eared animals came back with drooping spirits as well as ears. Once more we number over five hundred men fit for duty. Members of the 128th Illinois, who have awarded to us, a part of whom have been called deserters, because their officers were not of the right stripe, and sent them home from Cairo, have proved themselves to be men and brave soldiers. Our greatest loss was of them.

I need not tell you of the activity in these parts, from other causes than the recent rebel raid, and of the thousands of soldiers that are being sent over the railroad toward Tuscumbia and Chattanooga. New York papers have told you long ago. The railroad is nearly repaired to Tuscumbia, Ala.

As I write I am told that Chalmers has been reinforced and is returning with eight or ten thousand men. The rebels seem determined to disturb communication with Rosecrans by means of this railroad.

Very respectfully,

G. M. G.

FROM THE 45TH REGIMENT

Vicksburg, Miss., Oct. 25, 1863

Eds. Record: -- With pleasure I this morning presume to address you, and let our friends in Mercer County know that we are yet enjoying the privileges of soldiers, and can as yet enjoy our ration of hard tack and pork. The boys are most of them enjoying good health. There is nothing of importance going on in this Department at present, and we are anxiously looking for stirring news from Rosecrans in a few days. There is not a very heavy force at this point now, as the most of this army has, as I suppose you are aware, gone to East Tennessee.

We were on a scout in the interior of this country last week. Nothing of a very interesting character transpired on the trip, excepting a few hours skirmishing, in which we succeeded in driving the enemy from his position, every time, in a style that I am proud to believe did credit to both this regiment and our holy cause. Oh, how can any man, reared in these United States, beneath the capacious folds of our own starry banner, be a traitor. Wo to the man, North or South, who so far forgets himself, his fathers, and the happiness of generations to come, to deny his country his service in this, her hour of peril and danger, and let no man who has dared to pollute the ears of the people of our noble State with disloyal talk, or has in any way acted against the soldier, who has been standing the brunt of this trying crisis of this glorious country. Let them not reckon on the friendship of such soldiers, for they are not the men to meanly crawl to or kneel to traitors, or men in sympathy with traitors. That there are traitors at home we are well aware. But let them beware, when the soldier returns to his home, for fear they may receive what they so richly merit, and sink into obscurity, as the Poet says, "Unwept, unhonorable and unsung."

With these few remarks, I remain yours, respectfully,

G. W. H.
Co. I, 45th Reg't, Ill. Inf'y

FROM THE 102D REGIMENT

Laverne, Tenn., Nov. 6, 1863

Eds. Record:-- Enclosed please find muster roll of Co. E, 102d Regiment Illinois Volunteers, as it stands at this date, with remarks of changes since its organization.

The Company was organized on the 14th day of August, 1862, in Suez. Thomas Likely was elected Capgain; Dan. W. Sedwick, 1st Lieutenant; and Thomas G. Brown, 2d Lieutenant:

Officers

Dan. W. Sedwick, Captain; Commissioned as Captain May 6, 1863.
Thomas G. Brown, 1st Lieutenant; commissioned as 1st Lieutenant May 7, 1863.

John Allison, 2d Lieutenant; commissioned as 2d Lieutenant May 29, 1863.
William J. Abdill, 1st Sergeant; appointed May 6, 1863.
Jonathan C. Lafferty, Sergeant; appointed August 20, 1862.
Thomas Simpson, Sergeant; appointed May 6, 1863.
John T. Morford, Sergeant; appointed May 6, 1863.
John Tidball, Sergeant; appointed May 6, 1863.
Allen Dunn, Corporal; appointed August 20, 1862.
Henry W. Mauck, Corporal; appointed August 20, 1862.
Robert Godfrey, Corporal; appointed August 20, 1862.
David S. Porter, Corporal; appointed August 20, 1862.
Cornelius Brown, Corporal; appointed February 2, 1863.
William B. Cullison, Corporal; appointed February 2, 1863.
Simeon Rothrock, Corporal; appointed May 6, 1862.
William H. Dickie, Musician; appointed August 20, 1862.

Privates

William Artman, Philip T. Bridger, Henry Banks, John H. Bentz, Louis Bastrum, Thomas Barhan, Abram J. Carmichael, John B. Carmichael, Isaac Carson, Edward Chilson, James S. Denniston, George W. Edwards, Elijah Gilbert, Charles Hartsell, John Longhead, James M. Lee, James H. Lafferty, Stephen D. Letheo, Nelson Marey, Francis M. Morford, Abner T. Morford, Johathan P. Morrison, Henry S. Middaugh, James C. Middaugh, Hiram T. Morford, William H. Morford, James H. McKnight, Richard McGee, John A. McCutcheon, Henry McNeal, Michael Oswalts, Peter Peterson, Lester Patterson, Joseph Patterson, Robert Ross, Edward M. Sharer, David R. Simpson, William L. Stewart, William R. Simpson, James C. Simpson, William Sevits, Godfrey Unangst, Amos Wright, Richard Wright, John H. Wiley, Reuben Wiley, Robert Wilson, Gilbert Zerd.

Resigned

Thomas Likely, Captain; April 25, 1863.

Discharged

Andrew Boger, private; at Louisville, Ky., November 22, 1862.
Samuel Lyon, private; at Jeffersonville, Ind., January 13, 1863.
William B. Torbett, private; at Gallatin, Tenn., January 16, 1863.
Orange Lucas, private; at Bowling Green, Ky., January 16, 1863.
Sample R. Moore, Sergeant; at Gallatin, Tenn., January 28, 1863.
Robert Neeley, private; at Gallatin, Tenn., January 28, 1863.
Alexander Patterson, private; at Gallatin, Tenn., February 27, 1863.
George F. Nevius, private; at Gallatin, Tenn., February 27, 1863.
Henry Carmichael, Corporal; at Gallatin, Tenn., April 14, 1863.
Thomas Godfrey, private; at Gallatin, Tenn., February 28, 1863.
Franklin T. Porter, private; at Gallatin, Tenn., February 27, 1863.
William P. Morgan, Corporal; at Savanah, Tenn., October 10, 1863.
George W. Herbert, private; at Gallatin, Tenn., January 31, 1863.

Deaths

Albert C. Bridger, Sergeant; at Gallatin, Tenn., December 8, 1863; body sent to Mercer County.

Chauncey Boyce, private; at Gallatin, Tenn., January 2, 1863; buried at Gallatin.

Richard Brenn, private; at Gallatin, Tenn., January 3, 1863; buried at Gallatin.

Seth Gravat, private; at Gallatin, Tenn., February 5, 1863; buried at Gallatin.

William J. Abdill
1st Sergeant
Co. E 102d Ill Vol.

The following ad appeared in the Tuesday, Nov. 24, 1863 edition of the Weekly Record, John Porter and H. Bigelow, editors (published in Aledo):

THE LAST CALL!

—
Fill Up The

OLD REGIMENTS !

Enlist Now, Secure The
Bounty And Avoid The
Draft!

The undersigned has received authority to enlist men in the U.S. service, under the late call of "Father Abraham." All persons desiring to serve their Country, and at the same time receive a liberal bounty should do so immediately, and avoid the draft.

Call at my office, Main Street,
New Boston, Ills.

M. R. GOOD

FROM THE 30TH REGIMENT

Camp On Walnut Hills, near Vicksburg,
Miss., Oct. 21, 1863

Eds, Record: --- The handsome compliment paid to my maiden effort at newspaper scribbling, and the request to hear again from your "lengthy friend" have induced me to send another communication, which is at your disposal. We have just returned home from a scout to Livingston, a small village near Canton. A short description may be interesting. Logan's division started from Vicksburg on Wednesday, Oct. 14, and marched in a northeast direction, and encamped near Big Black. Crossed the river on the morning of the 15th at Messenger's Ford, on a temporary bridge, constructed by our engineer corps. Here we were joined by Gen. Tuttle's division. Gen McPherson commanded all the troops composing the expedition. Marched that day to Brownsville--distance eighteen miles. Here our advance had a lively skirmish with a squad of the

enemy, which resulted in the killing of one of their number and the wounding of another. Both fell into our hands.

I should have mentioned before that a brigade of cavalry accompanied us. They were the advance and rear guards of the column. We resumed the march before sunrise on the morning of the 15th. Had gone but a short distance when heavy skirmishing commenced between our advance and the enemy, which continued with but few and short intervals during the day. About two miles east of Brownsville the road forks, but forms a junction again seven or eight miles beyond. The enemy in strong force had taken position on the right hand of Jackson road. The third brigade skirmished with them here, while the first and second took the left hand or Canton road. The 4th, 5th and 11th Illinois cavalry were in advance of us. On their arrival at Bogachitsee creek they were fired upon by a party of concealed butternuts while crossing the bridge. Here Lieut. Greenwood, of the 11th cavalry, formerly of Suez, had his horse wounded. The cavalry dismounted, and deploying as skirmishers, drove the party back. The second brigade coming up crossed the creek and formed in line of battle. The enemy occupied a long range of bluffs about a mile and a half east of the creek. A broad plantation of level bottom land lay between us and them. A long line of mounted men were observing our movements from the bluffs. We advanced in line of battle across the open field. Soon the enemy opened two pieces of artillery on us. Fragments of shells, that bursted above and in front of us, went fluttering over us like frightened quail--providentially no one was hurt. Our artillery responded from a position to the right and in rear of our regiment. A piece of the wooden block of a spherical case shot from one of these struck Wm. Adams, of Richland Grove, on the head, just back of the right ear. He fell quivering to the ground and lay insensible for a few moments. He soon recovered from the shock and rejoined us. We advanced within a quarter of a mile of the bluff, but darkness coming we were ordered to withdraw. We fell back about half a mile and bivouacked. Our company rested at the end of a large cotton gin. We appropriated a considerable quantity of the textile fabric which it contained for bedding.

Soon as it was clear daylight the next morning the enemy re-opened on us with artillery from their old position on the bluff.---They were particular in paying their compliments to Co. A. A twelve pound solid shot struck the ground a short distance in front of us, and ricocheted most beautifully over our heads and struck the roof of the cotton gin just in our rear. The next one struck a few feet to our right, and threw a shower of dirt around us. Several passed over us with a fiendish hiss or shriek peculiar to such missiles. These elicited droll remarks or dry jokes from the boys, which correctly interpreted meant whistling to keep their courage up. After the first shot struck so near us, it required no imperative order from the officers to make the boys lie down. The moment their cannon flashed we would almost instinctively throw ourselves flat on the ground. An enraged adder could not be possessed of greater flattening or spreading powers than we displayed during the exhibition of rebel gunnery.

About nine o'clock everything was in readiness for an advance. The first brigade formed in the left and the second the right wing of the line. Tuttle's division, which came up during the night, were held in reserve. Our skirmish line was thrown forward about two hundred paces in advance of us. A battery of James' rifled cannon opened on the rebels, but they did not respond. We now received orders to advance across the field toward the enemy's position. Their skirmishers began to fall back, slowly at first,

but a few well-directed shells and minies accelerated their speed to a double quick. We ascended the bluffs in magnificent style, and in almost breathless silence. We momentarily expected to see long lines of the enemy rise up from behind the crest of the bluff and pour a deadly volley into our ranks. We were soon relieved from our terrible suspense, when our skirmishers gained the top of the bluff and saw the rebs skedaddling in the distance. A battery went rumbling past us, and took a position on a high ridge and shelled their rear. The cavalry and first brigade followed them about five miles, skirmishing all the way to Livingston. Near this village they burned an extensive flour mill, running six pair of burrs. Also a wagon shop where gun carriages have been manufactured for the Confederacy. The destruction of these shops and mills is said to be one of the objects of the expedition. From prisoners we captured it was ascertained their force consisted of two brigades of infantry and three brigades of cavalry and mounted infantry, all under command of Stephen A. Lee, one of the prisoners paroled at this place last July.

On the morning of the 18th we commenced a retrograde movement. Took the road leading through Clinton. We arrived at our camp near Vicksburg on the 20th. The enemy hung on our rear with full-dog pertinacity until we passed Champion Hills. They made several dashes on our rear guard, but were always repulsed. I have not ascertained our losses in the various skirmishes on the trip. They were small, however. I have not heard of more than six or eight being killed, and ten or fifteen wounded. We captured a few prisoners--perhaps twenty-five. The object of the expedition is unknown to thousands. It will probably be made known to us before long in a "congratulatory order" from our commander.

The country through which we passed bears the sad impress of war. Vast plantations are uncultivated, save perhaps a small patch, just enough for a bare subsistence. Fences broken down and burned. Blackened chimneys mark the spots where once stood magnificent residences. Destruction is depicted on every object. Many of the citizens are dependent on Uncle Sam for their daily bread.

The health of the troops has greatly improved since the hot season has passed. But two of our company--Wm. Haverfield and Thomas Phillips--are absent, sick in hospital. Our former correspondent and companion in arms--Brigham--has been seriously ill but is improving slowly. Sergeant Joseph Humbert of Co. G, formerly of Keithsburg, died in the 8th inst. in the regiment hospital, of chronic diarrhea.

For two months past we have had a great deal of duty to perform, both of fatigue and guard. If the old adage, "To labor is to pray," be sound theology, we are certainly exemplary models of piety. We have fulfilled that part of the Christian's duty to the letter. Heavy details are sent from all the regiments daily, to work on the forts. The boys are on either guard or fatigue duty from four to six days every week.

Fortifications are in process of construction on all the prominent knolls and ridges that encircle the city, which will, when completed and properly garrisoned, bid defiance to all the force the enemy can bring against them. Though not so extensive as the works the enemy built, they will be far more formidable.

Splendid mansions that once occupied these knolls have been torn down to make room for the forts. One princely edifice, situated on a high terraced knoll, built on the old turreted castle style of architecture, at a cost of \$35,000, was totally demolished, and in its stead an impregnable fort is rapidly approaching completion.

Our brigade commander, formerly Col. Force, of the 20th Ohio Regiment, has recently been promoted to a Brigadier General. He is an excellent officer on the field—cool and brave to a fault. In camp he imposes some "extras" that could as well be dispensed with as not, without materially interfering with the comfort of the boys. There is one defect which obscures his many virtues. He is a — bachelor.

The attention of the troops here is almost wholly directed to the "Army of the Cumberland." The movements of the two armies are watched with great solicitude. The late chilling repulse of Rosecrans at Chickamauga, though exceedingly unwelcome, has not discouraged the troops by any means; on the contrary they are of the unanimous feeling that "it will never do to give it up so, Mr. Bornw."

For fear I am weary the readers of your paper I shall close. Should anything worthy of notice occur, you may expect "to hear again" from the

Long Sergeant

FROM THE 27TH REGIMENT

Chattanooga, Tenn., Nov. 15, 1863

Eds. Record: — It is as natural for soldiers as for other people to desire to be well spoken of; if we do a good thing we all like to have proper credit for it. It is this desire, perhaps, more than any other that induces me to write anything for the public eye.—Since we have been in this place our mail arrangements have been so uncertain that it would have been useless to try to convey any news to you by that means. It is some better now, but all important movements are anticipated by the telegraph. The 27th has not been called upon to show any deeds of chivalry since the bloody battle of Chickamauga was fought, but as some of the descriptions which have been published of the work done there may not have been read by some of your readers, I will copy a short extract from the description given by the correspondent of the Cincinnati Commercial, relative to the part we took in the battle of Saturday, September 19th:—"I glance at the sun, and my very heart sinks to see it still an hour and a half high. The left had already absorbed the centre, and the centre and right had already absorbed every brigade in the army, except one holding a vital point. I followed Sheridan's swift brigade. I soon saw the right of our line, in confusion, falling back rapidly under an appalling fire. Sheridan's 3d brigade—the 22d, 27th, 42d and 51st Illinois regiments—commanded by that true gentleman and soldier, Colonel Bradley, deployed into line, and the very best instant its flanks turned to the front, it pushed into an open field at a double-quick, while behind it Wood's two brigades rallied and gathered up their scattered groups. I heard a cheer, loud and ringing, and



riding up behind the line of Colonel Bradley's charge, I saw four noble regiments far across the field, pouring swift volleys into the flying foe, and flapping their colors in triumph. Their cheers subsided, and a sharp shower of balls warned me away from the inspiring sight. In a moment Sheridan dashed back to the rear, halts, but his eyes aglow with pride for the brilliant charge of his brigade. His practical ear had caught the warning musketry rattle of a counter charge, and he threw his second brigade into line for another charge, if the other one is compelled to give way. But it did not give way. Inspired by Sheridan and Bradley it withstands the shock and its assailants hastily retire."

In my last communication I mentioned the recapture of the 8th Indiana battery in this charge, and that our company--the representative of the banner county of Illinois--hauled off three of the guns alone. An order has since been read to us containing an extract from the official report of General Wood in which he returns his hearty thanks to the brigade for their gallantry, and soldierly conduct in returning him his battery. Of the part we took in the action of Sunday, the 20th of September, I have seen no good description, save one that was published in a rebel paper, and is from the pen of a correspondent in the rebel Gen. Hindman's division. After describing the manner in which they drove our brigade back, he remarks that Gen. Hindman paid dear for the ground he gained. He lost 2130 men, nearly one-half his division. For a month after the battle our regiment was stationed on the extreme right of the army, next to the Tennessee river, but on the consolidation of the 20th and 21st Army Corps we were assigned to the 3d Brigade 2d Division 4th Army Corps, commanded by Major General Gordon Granger. Major General Sheridan is still our division commander, and Colonel Harker is our new brigade commander. The brigade is now composed of the 22d, 27th, 42d, 51st and 79th Illinois regiments, the 3d Kentucky, and 64th, 65th and 125th Ohio regiments. We are stationed on the left of the city.

During this month the weather has been very pleasant. I believe it has been cold enough to freeze ice, but two nights this season. Last month it rained nearly every day; and as we were depending then on wagon trains hauling our provisions from Stevenson, our supply was very low, as the distance by the only road that was then in our possession was about sixty miles, and its condition was such that it required 15 days for a train to reach us from Stevenson. Some days we had one cracker issued to us for two days' rations and when crackers could not be had an ear of corn was issued to each man. Nothing could be bought in the city, and there was no chance to forage from the country---. The days looked dark, but brighter prospects are now in view. Our boats are running up to within two miles of the city, and we soon expect to be indulging our appetites with a plenty that will make us forget the corn we stole from the officers' horses.

We have plenty of picket and fatigue duty to perform. Our boys are on picket one day and work on fortifications the next. The armies of the Union and Rebeldom are very curiously disposed. I can sit in my tent and count thousands of rebel tents encircling us in the shape of a horse-shoe along the side of the Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, from the Tennessee above us around to that river below. At night their sparkling camp fires seem almost as numerous as the stars which illuminate the heavens. Our pickets are but a few yards apart, and sometimes in dulge of

a friendly little chat, although it is against orders on both sides. It is getting to be a daily occurrence to see a squad of a dozen rebel pickets deserting and coming over to our lines. The rebs occasionally throw a shell into the city, and they daily send a few in the direction of our boat landing from the top of Lookout Mountain, which juts up against the river about two miles below town. They are shelling quite lively today, notwithstanding the northern papers had the mountain taken by Hooker several days ago.

Day before yesterday I witnessed a horrible sight. Two men belonging to our first brigade, one from the 44th, the other from the 88th Illinois regiment, were shot to death by musketry for the crime of desertion. They met death with a coolness deserving of a better fate. This looks hard even to us who are accustomed to hard sights. Yet the man who through fear abandons his comrade on the battle-field adds a reinforcement of one to the enemy. We shoot at the one and the other should be made to do his duty by some punishment when patriotism fails to induce him to stand.

The once beautiful city of Chattanooga shows some of the effects of war. Not only all of her splendid groves have been condemned by military necessity and cut away, but also many of the finest residences have been torn down in order to give our cannon full play. The brick and lumber have been appropriated by the soldiers in making houses for our comfort as we have no tents except the little shelter tent for summer use.

The health of our company was never better than it has been during the last two months. Our wounded boys have all gone to Northern Hospitals, and we hope will get furloughs to go home. Wilson W. Wilcox, reported missing from our company, is a prisoner at Richmond, Va. It has been reported to us that Calvin F. Gibson, formerly a member of our company, but who joined the 4th Regular Cavalry, was killed in a skirmish preceding the battle of Chickamauga, on the 18th of September. This adds another to the list of heroes Mercer county has had sacrificed in the suppression of this unholy rebellion.

Yours truly,

S. B. Atwater
Ord'y Serg't Co G 27th Ill. Vol.
Inf'y

FROM THE 83D REGIMENT.

FORT DONELSON, July 18, 1863.

DEAR EDITOR:-- The Ohio 71st Infantry left this place, under orders, July 7th, for Gallatin, Tenn. This is the regiment that was said to have shown the "white feather," and acted very cowardly at Shiloh and other places. It was then commanded by Rodney A. Mason. He surrendered six companies at the taking of Clarksville last August. The rebels were commanded by Woodward. Major Hart, with the remaining four companies, repelled and severely punished Woodward and his forces at this place during the same month. So I conclude that those boys, as well as others of our noble volunteers, will fight, maintain their integrity, and magnify the stars and stripes, if they have officers worthy of position. The greatest curse resting upon our army, in my opinion, is consequent upon so many worthless, drunken, gambling, licentious officers being in command, in different positions. It is truly wonderful the influence that a commissioned officer has for good or bad over the men of whom he has charge. Mason, last fall, was dismissed in disgrace from the service, "for repeated acts of cowardice in the face of the enemy." Lieut. Col. Andrews, of the same regiment, has resigned and gone home. This is a great blessing to the regiment, for he was of no earthly account as a man, an officer, or a soldier. Last winter the six companies surrendered at Clarksville were exchanged and returned to duty. There was no little dissatisfaction among officers and soldiers until Capt. McConnell, of Company B, was commissioned and assumed command as Colonel of the regiment. The promotion of Capt. McConnell, I think, renders universal and entire satisfaction. Col. McConnell is one of the best drilled officers in the service. His morals are good, his christian character unblemished, and he is a minister of very fine abilities. I was present when he assumed command of the regiment, and listened with interest to his remarks upon that occasion. His address was characterized by good sense, patriotism and high-toned moral and religious principle. He appealed eloquently to the other commissioned officers to be co-workers with him in looking after the military, sanitary, moral and religious interests of the regiment.

My associations with Chaplain McKinney, of the Ohio 71st, for nearly a year past, have been of the most pleasant character. He is a fine scholar, an able and eloquent divine, a fine, social, christian gentleman, with whom I could counsel in confidence. I was very sorry to be separated from Col. McConnell, Chaplain McKinney, and other worthy members of the regiment with whom I had formed pleasant acquaintances. May the great God go with them, cause his face to shine upon them, and lead them with their regiment to honor, glory and everlasting life.

The removal of the Ohio 71st leaves at this fort only the 83d Illinois and Wisconsin 13th infantry, and Stenback's and Flood's batteries. As I remarked in a former letter, about two hundred of the infantry have been detailed to serve on horseback and take the place of the cavalry recently removed. I give you the names of those belonging to the regiment from Mercer county that have been detailed for said service:-- Orderly Sergeant, your eloquent and interesting correspondent, B. W. Perkins; privates, Luther T. Whitecomb, Amos

Kenney, Wm. W. Pinkerton, Marion Haskins, James Wetherbee, James Brott, Jediah Smith, Saul McFate, John Forsyth.-- The men thus detailed are all well equipped and mounted on good horses, with excellent rig. I have no doubt but this will be a very efficient branch of the service at this post, where the greatest annoyances are from dastardly, cowardly guerrillas that prowl through the country. The boys appear well pleased with their new sphere of action, and are always ready for picket duty, and ever anxious for a chase after the "barefaced" guerrillas.- Success to the mounted infantry; may their shadows not become less, nor their members diminished, until guerrillaism is numbered with the things past, treason in all its forms is sent hissing back to its native hell, and the principles for which we contend are signally and gloriously triumphant.

I have been agreeably disappointed at the good health prevailing among the troops at this post, during the hot and sickly season of the year. In our own regiment there are but two or three that are unable to sit up a portion of each day, and but very few unable to come to the table to take their meals. I conclude that the fine sanitary condition of the troops is owing in a great measure to the large amount of "blackberries" used in camps. The berries grow in abundance on the briars scattered in profusion over the hills. I am glad there is some redeeming qualities connected with the productions of this rough and desolate looking region.

Dr. Cooper has been quite unwell for several days, but is now improving. Dr. McClanahan was for some time unfit for active duty, but has regained his wonted health. W. W. Carothers, at this writing, is somewhat debilitated, but nothing serious I trust. My own health continues quite good, better than ever before at this season of the year. But few mornings does 5 o'clock find me in bed, and but few moments from that time until 9 o'clock at night are unemployed. I have been appointed post chaplain here. My labors are various and multitudinous. I am thankful to the Giver of all good for his unnumbered mercies, his unbounded love, and protecting care. May I never prove recreant to the great trust committed to my charge.- Col. Lyons, (commandant of the post,) Col. Smith, and the officers and soldiers generally, give me great encouragement in their gentlemanly bearing, words of sympathy, and acts of kindness. May the Divine spirit rest upon us richly, cementing us together as a band of patriotic brothers, and enabling us to go forth, laboring manfully, energetically and successfully for the redemption of our country and the glory of God.

Since writing before three members of our regiment at this post have passed to the world of spirits. Wednesday, June 17th, Warren L. Chase, of Company E, died of disease of the kidneys. He was an excellent young man, a consistent christian. He sleeps well, for he sleeps in Jesus. Friday, June 19th, Richard M. Johnson, of Company H, passed from earth away. He was afflicted with pneumonia. He suffered much, but bore all without a murmur. He leaves a wife and three children in Warren county, Ill., a brother and a brother-in-law in the same company of which he was a member. May God bless them, lead them to the crucified one, and save them all, where war never deluges with tears and blood. Monday, June 29th, James P. Haynes, of Company H, breathed his last. Mr. Haynes is the third brother that has died of pulmonary affection within the last few

months. He was an excellent young man, raised up in the church, and early instructed in the principles of our holy religion. He died in full prospect of a home in heaven. I knew the family of which he was a member years ago. Many and severe have been their afflictions. May God sustain the bereaved parents and friends, and may the angel of the covenant wing his presence along their pathway, and guide them to that heaven of rest, where separations never come, and where distracting cares never disturb that rest which is eternal.

Kind reader, christian soldier, is not that a source of great consolation that the service of God is not incompatible with the service of our country. Though we have in the christian conflict to meet with foes, numerous and of various kinds, we have sources of great encouragement, and while here battling for the sacred altars of our common country, let us with renewed energies fight the battles of the Lord, unfurl and maintain the banner of salvation, bring souls to Christ and heaven, encourage believers, and thus accomplish the work we are called to do. The conquering Son of God, the Captain of our salvation, in whom we trust, has provided us with ample munitions to carry on the conflict. The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God. Let us take to ourselves the whole armor of God, that we may by his strength vanquish foes whom we could not vanquish by our own. Our leader has trodden the path and passed through the conflict before us. Having vanquished his and our enemies, and triumphed over them, even in death and hell, encourages us to follow his example, promising a crown of righteousness to all that endure unto the end. In this conflict we are following the path trodden by the patriarchs, prophets and apostles. They conquered and so may we. The victories they won are within reach, and the prize they obtained is offered to us. What if we have some difficulties, some sorrows, and some afflictions, in this vale of tears. They will yield us the fruits of righteousness; they will work out for us an "exceeding and eternal weight of glory."

Our religious services are well attended and are quite interesting. There are six other ministers and licentiates in the regiment.- These brethren render very efficient assistance in conducting religious exercises, with our own regiment and the 13th Wisconsin, which has no chaplain. The moral state of the regiments here and the religious interest manifested are very encouraging. The Sabbath school among the blacks is doing well. Everything is moving along pleasantly and in order, not a jar or note of discord among the officers or soldiers.

Let friends at home remember us as they bow before the throne of Divine favor. May God bless you and us, give our nation peace, on the principles of eternal truth, and save us in his kingdom.

In a former letter I spoke of Mr. Sexton as Clerk. He is Quarter Master Sergeant. He makes a number one officer.

Thine, fraternally,

A. C. HIGGINS,

Chaplain 83d Regiment Illinois Inf'y.

FROM THE 9TH REGIMENT.

POCAHONTAS, TENN., July 17, 1863.

DEAR EDITOR:--We have to record the defeating and routing of 2,000 or 2,500 of the enemy, under four different commanders, with Col. Jesse Forrest as chief, on the 13th inst., at Jackson, Tenn.

Since the line of railroad via Bolivar and Jackson to Corinth has been abandoned by our forces for the nearer rout over the "Memphis and Charleston," the guerrillas have commenced mustering at Jackson, conscripting all that they can force into their ranks, threatening with death, and actually killing men at their homes who were unwilling to fight for the wicked rebellion. They had accumulated such a force that they were having it pretty much their own way, and being well mounted, threatened our lines of communication with "America," both by land and water.

Gen. Hurlbut saw fit to stop them in their mad career, and sent Col. Hatch of the 2d Iowa cavalry, from Lagrange, with his own regiment, besides the 3d Michigan and 1st Tennessee cavalry. Our regiment joined them north of Bolivar, on the night of the 12th. Early on the 13th we were again on our way to Jackson, which we neared at 2 o'clock, p. m. One mile from the city we came upon a strong picket force near a large stream of water, that could only be crossed by a large bridge on the main road. This bridge fifty men could hold against ten times their numbers. Stern resistance was shown us there by seventy-five or one hundred men, but we were on our way to Jackson, and go we would. The enemy fought bravely, but yielded to Union bullets after losing two men severely wounded, and one prisoner. They wounded one of our men.

Our whole force immediately crossed over and formed in line of battle, ready to either assume the offensive or defensive. The enemy did not come from Jackson to our line, so we went in search of him; that we thought would be behind the Union fortifications of Jackson. Soon these loomed up before us: advancing with our regiment in line as skirmishers, and the cavalry in solid column, on the main road, we charged up to and over them, but not a rebel was to be seen. We were fearing that the enemy had fled without enough punishment, and marching through the suburbs of the city, on the Northwest, when he was seen, with a part of his force, ready either to receive us, or charge upon us. We assumed the offensive and marched in line of battle toward him, five hundred yards distant. When within close range they--having dismounted and concealed themselves--opened on us with vigor. We replied by a volley, and both lines sternly withstood the bullets of the other, when, after it had been carried on vigorously for a time by both parties, the rebels were suddenly found to be mounting for a retreat;--then we pressed them, but poorly, being dismounted. Our cavalry in the meantime had been fighting another portion of their forces further to the right, and ended the contest by charging upon them with the saber, taking two companies entire. Two officers received saber strokes, one in the side and the other in the shoulder.

Our cavalry followed the flying rebels toward Humboldt, but could not overtake them, on their fast horses. They lost during the day, and left in our hands about one hundred and twenty-five soldiers, besides four hundred conscripts. We had killed during the afternoon, at the bridge and in the city, fifteen. We had captured over one hun-

dred prisoners, seventy-three of whom were wounded, paroled and left in Jackson, besides seven able ones to attend to the wants of the wounded. We brought thirty-five as prisoners to Corinth; they represented four different commands; some of them belonged to Roddy.

Our loss was fifteen or twenty in the whole command; eight belonged to our regiment.-- Two of them are mortally wounded. They, with four others, were left at Jackson, in the care of citizens. They were not able to be brought along.

On the 14th we retraced our steps to Bolivar, and reached camp on the 15th, to be cheered with the news of the capture of Port Hudson. We brought along and turned over to the Post Quarter Master over one hundred horses and mules.

Mercer county boys are all well.

Yours, &c.,

G. M. G.

FROM THE 102D REGIMENT.

STEWART'S CREEK, TENN., July 14, 1863

DEAR EDITOR:--Trusting that you owe Colonel Smith no personal ill will, I enclose to you, for publication, the statement of all the officers of the regiment now present, in answer to the letter of John Miles, as well as to that of Ira E. Harsh, and the editorials called out by the letter of "An Officer of the 102d regiment."

It will be observed that all the officers have not signed the same statement. One reason of this is that Col. Mannon, with three companies, are detached from the main body of the regiment, and are not as familiar with all the circumstances as some of the others. An attempt has been made to give a full statement of the circumstances attending each separate charge, but it is found impracticable from the fact that what one officer knows, another is ignorant of. Those in the first list of names intend to deny not every particular of the Miles letter, but (as stated) as far as they know; those in the 2d list speak distinctly what they know, and no farther.

The charge of drunkenness is emphatically denied by all who know Col. Smith and are unprejudiced. It is hoped and expected that this will be satisfactory to the friends of the regiment, and that its enemies will in future search perseveringly for truth, and that their productions will show the fruits of their labor.

I am, very respectfully, yours,
WM. HAMILTON.

FROM THE 27TH REGIMENT.

CAMP AT UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH.

CUMBERLAND MOUNTAINS, TENN., July 20, 1863.

DEAR EDITOR:--Some months ago the Chattanooga Rebel, in speaking of the efficiency of the rebel forces in Tennessee, announced that Bragg's army had become a perfect machine. Prentice responded that Rosecrans was going to run that machine. Six months from the

last forward movements of the Army of the Cumberland passed quietly away, with the exception of now and then an efficient cavalry raid, which materially interfered with the enemy's designs of disturbing our line of communication in the rear; and we had about come to the conclusion that Murfreesboro was to be our summer quarters. We were engaged in fixing up shades over our company grounds, to keep out the rays of a Southern sun, when very unexpectedly to us came the order to get ready to march at a moment's notice. Each man was to carry three days' rations in his haversack; forty rounds of ammunition, a rubber blanket and one Government blanket. Our knapsacks were packed and sent inside the breastworks. We carried no clothing with us except what was worn.- The harvest had ripened and Rosa was ready to try the machine. I regret that I could not have sent you an earliest report of its working, but a few items, even at this late date, may not prove wholly uninteresting to friends at home I saw but very little of the working of the machine, except the track and finished works it left behind, but, judging from the extent of ground it passed over, I have no hesitation in saying it cut well, and so far has been easily run, giving us at least good satisfaction.

We left Murfreesboro at an early hour on the morning of the 24th of June. Our (Sheridan's) Division marched out on the Shelbyville pike. Shortly after starting the rain began falling in torrents, which effectually laid the dust which we so much dreaded. After marching about eight miles we found ourselves in front of a rebel force at Spring Gap. Four companies of the 27th were deployed as skirmishers, and in company with a regiment of mounted infantry kept up a continual popping in reply to the rebel sharpshooters. The rebs threw a few shells over us, but did no damage. We did not crowd them; our object seemed to be to attract their attention while a flank movement was going on farther to the left. About noon firing commenced at Hoover's Gap, and in the afternoon we were relieved by Brannen's Division, from Triune. We then moved across a dirt road (or, as the rain still continued, it might more properly be called a mud road,) towards the Manchester pike. We crossed the railroad at Christiana and camped at dark at Middleburg, where we remained all the next day, watching our train roll slowly along through the mud. On the morning of the 26th we started out as train guard, marched a half mile, halted, waited in the mud and rain till dark for the train to move forward, but it did not move; it remained mud-bound and we returned to occupy our old camp. We had reveille at 3 o'clock and started again at 4.- This time the wagons moved a little, not that the roads had grown any better, but we had transferred a part of the loads to our haversacks, which, taken in connection with the amount eaten by the mules and thrown away, rendered the wagons some lighter. A little before noon we reached the Manchester pike, a distance of three miles from the starting place. In the afternoon our division passed through Hoover's Gap, which been taken the day before. Also through Beach Grove, which gave unmistakeable signs of a rebel rout. Blankets, knapsacks, butternut clothing and arms were scattered in profusion along the road. We went on to Fairfield, and the 2d brigade of our division, being in advance, had a running fight with the rebs here, taking a number of prisoners and destroying a camp. At Fairfield we crossed a fork of Duck river and turned our course eastward, towards

Manchester. We camped that night about 10 o'clock, having finished a march of twenty miles through mud, deep water, heavy thunder showers, scorching hot sun, and an occasional long, steep hill to climb. I think there were more men who gave out and fell by the roadside during the last three or four miles we marched than I ever saw before. They were coming into camp at all hours of the night, and did not all get in till long after the sun had made his appearance in the morning.

On Sunday, the 28th, we marched nine miles, and joined the main army near Manchester. We camped about noon near the falls of Duck river, a great water privilege.- There is a mill here, but it does not use one-tenth the power that would be employed were it situated in a Yankee land. The last ten or twelve miles we passed over before reaching this place is a howling wilderness.- Our road previous to that was through some rich valleys, where crops of good corn, cotton and wheat were being cultivated. The wheat was ripe and promised a good yield. Many pieces had been cut and shocked. Bragg had made details of soldiers to do the harvesting, but Old Rosa's movements prevented them from enjoying the fruits of their labor, and long before this time military necessity has made a clean sweep of all the grain in that country. It made very good mule fodder and assisted the slumbers of the weary soldiers wonderfully; particularly was this the case when he would wake up to find six inches of water on the ground he was occupying as a camp.

On the 29th we pushed on through Manchester, wading creeks, and through the woods. We halted at a creek about seven miles from Tullahoma. The enemy occupied the opposite bank and disputed our crossing. I saw cannon wagons sink in the clay to the hub on the highest hills. I think that would be called mud-bound in the East; but even under such difficulties we sometimes move in Tennessee. The next day we advanced without opposition two miles. On the morning of the 1st of July as order was read cutting us down to half rations of hard bread, or one half pound per day: this was necessary on account of the difficulties of transportation. On such marches as these we never carry anything but hard bread, meat, coffee and sugar; cutting off the rations of rice, potatoes, vegetables, hominy, beans, peas, and other little extras; so that half rations of hard bread here is no better than quarter rations in camp. Add to this the keenness of appetite occasioned by marching, and you can easily imagine that we have not been in a very thriving condition. The order continued in force up to the 15th of July. We picked up something from the country, but it was very little, as this part of Tennessee is, I think, the poorest country, with the exception of now and then a rich valley, that I ever saw.

We entered Tullahoma on the 1st. Our Division was the first to enter. We had but little time to examine the works here, but from what I saw call them the strongest rebel works I ever saw; even better than the far-famed works of Columbus, Kentucky.- General Rosecrans could easily have made as long a siege here as Halleck did at Corinth, but he pleased us better and hurt the rebs worse. I saw some of the heavy siege guns that Bragg was unable to take away. On the 2d our brigade was train guard, and had a slow, tedious march, having to cut a new road to a ford on Elk river, as the rebs had burned the bridge. On the morning of the 3d we waded through Elk river, and

during the day several of its forks. The water in these mountain streams runs so swift that it washed the feet of some of the men from under them. Some of the horses and mules were washed down the stream and drowned. I did not hear of any men being lost. We had to fasten our ammunition and rations to our muskets and hold them out of the water.

We reached the foot of the mountains, at Cowen Station, on the night of the 3d, rested on the 4th, and had orders to wash our shirts, with the privilege of going to bed while they were drying. Salutes were fired from all the batteries in hearing. A heavy skirmish took place on the top of the mountains, between our cavalry and the rebels. Our cavalry is of much more service than it once was. The most of the fighting that has been done in this department since the battle of Stone river has been done by cavalry and mounted infantry. During this march they have skirmished some every day.

We find a great many Union people in this country, and there is deserters coming in, and prisoners brought in, every day. We occupied Cowen Station till the 9th, when we climbed the mountain. At this camp five hundred muskets were found that had been stacked by a rebel picket, who had evidently deserted.

Finding my communication growing too long, I shall have to defer the description of many places, people, &c. We are near the Alabama and Georgia line. Some of our regiment have been back into Alabama again on a foraging expedition. I have had to omit the description of many interesting showers, which we will never forget. For the first twenty days out, there was not a day nor night, that I can recall, without with it recalling its accompanying shower. This is not considered pleasant weather, but still I think it is preferable to the scorching sun of this climate.

The cars are now running to the mountains, and we are growing fat again on full rations of hard bread, the wild berries we pick here, and the news of the glorious victories being achieved by our arms.

Yours truly,
S. B. ATWATER, Ord'ly Serg't,
Co. G 27th Ill. Vol. Inf'y.

FROM THE 9TH REGIMENT.

POCAHONTAS, TENN., Sept. 1, 1863.

DEAR EDITOR:--Apology is sometimes necessary. In the present instance I shall have to beg your indulgence for my seeming neglect in not giving you an account sooner of the recent cavalry raid into Mississippi, in which we took a part. Duties of various kinds have been the cause of my delay in writing. But following the maxim of "better late than never," I will give you a short account even at this late hour.

On the 12th of last month we received marching orders, with six days rations.-- Where we were going was a question about which all had their surmises, but none knew exactly except some of the leading officers. Such matters are generally kept concealed from the private soldier, and he must await the coming events to reveal the movements to him. From some motive unknown to me Col. Phillips availed himself-

of the darkness to leave camp. Traveled all night. Made directly for Salem, Miss., a small village northwest of Ripley. From thence we followed the trail of the cavalry forces from Lagrange until we reached Oxford, the county seat of Lafayette county, where we overtook them. Col. Phillips then took command. Followed the Railroad from thence to Grenada passing through Water Valley and Coffeetown on the way. At Water Valley we captured seven rebel teams, mostly loaded with corn. They had been at Oxford, but, hearing of our coming, they were making for Grenada. We took them in hands and applied the corn to our own use. Water Valley is a railroad station so called from the fact that it is located in a beautiful valley, with a stream of the purest crystal water flowing through it. Left Water Valley on Sabbath evening, the 16th, about sunset.- Soon after dusk, thick clouds began to gather in the West. By 9 o'clock a very heavy rain storm had overtaken us. The rain came down in torrents. The darkness was such that it could almost be felt. Col. Phillips, whether to try our patience or to hasten in his time to reach Grenada, I know not, but many a silent, inward curse was given him that night. Some could not refrain from being outspoken in their denunciations. The difficulties of a night spent in riding, such a night as the above, no one can appreciate until he has tried it himself. The following morning we reached Coffeetown, fourteen miles from Grenada. There we released from the Coffeetown jail, a white man and two negroes. The former charged with running off negroes to Memphis, the latter for some misdemeanor to their master. "Uncle Samuel" had use for the latter and they were turned over to the negro recruiting officers, of which there were quite a number. Between Coffeetown and Grenada the cavalry had a chase after a locomotive, which had been connected with a construction train, repairing the road. So soon as the engineer discovered the cavalry, he unhooked from the train and steamed for Grenada. The cavalry gave chase, but did not succeed in capturing it. When within five or six miles of Grenada we saw a dense smoke arise near the site of the city.- Our supposition was that the rebels were burning their commissary stores preparatory to leaving, and that we would enter unmolested. The burning afterward proved to be two large railroad bridges over the Yallobusha.- Reaching the river bottom, we found the rebels in town, and going to make some show of resistance. Our brigade was mostly dismounted and sent into the skirmish line while the brigade of cavalry from Germantown was divided between the two flanks. We then made our advance in grand style, notwithstanding we had swamps, logs and brush to encounter. In about half an hour from the time we began to advance, the coast was cleared, and we had made our advance as far as the river would let us. Several cavalrymen then plunged into the river to the opposite side, where lay an old ferry-boat, and brought it to the aid of the remainder, who crossed as speedily as possible, but to find the city evacuated of armed foes. Col. Phillips had the honor of being the first Yankee officer to enter the city of Grenada. The cavalry were reported to have entered the place last fall, when Grant made his advance from Holly Springs, but it was a mistake.- Our regiment did not cross the river. Col. Phillips immediately had all the rolling stock on the road either burned or rendered useless. Many fine public buildings and places of business were destroyed. The loss in property has been variously estimated at from two to ten millions of dollars. The form-

er I think whuld be a low estimate, the latter very high.

Our skirmish took place on the 17th, the 18th we lay quiet, and on the 19th we started on our return, accompanied by a brigade of cavalry from Vicksburg, which joined us at Grenada the evening of the skirmish. Col. Winslow, of the 4th Iowa, who was in command of the force after joining us, was much chagrined at the thought of Col. Phillips having succeeded in driving the rebels out before he arrived. From Grenada we moved up the South Memphis Railroad by way of Panola and Oakland, gathering up all the male negroes fit for military service. These were not the only ones that availed themselves of the privilege to secure their freedom, but men, women and children, of all grades, and shades of color, flocked into us, until I think they numbered over one thousand. Some of them were clothed in rags and filth, and were almost as ignorant as the dumb brute, while others were well dressed, intelligent and live with the desire for freedom. Mothers walked the distance of sixty and seventy miles and carried a babe. In one or two instances, the mothers became so weary they could carry their innocents no longer, and just lay them down on the road side and left them. Think of this ye that love to see slavery perpetuated. Think of a mother so eager to gain her freedom that she will abandon her sucking child. God will not always turn a deaf ear to the cries of the oppressed. The babes that were abandoned were cared for by our noble and kind Surgeon, Dr. Culich. Dear, good old man, may the Lord plentifully reward him for his kindness.

We parted from the Vicksburg brigade between Panola and Oakland, they going to Memphis, while we came through Holly Springs. Parted with the Germantown brigade west of Holly Springs--brought all the prisoners, forty in number, to Pocahontas.-- Some of them were paroled prisoners from Vicksburg, found fighting us and their paroles in their pockets. Gen. Grant has given strict orders concerning such, that they shall all be kept in close confinement until duly tried by court martial.

We reached Pocahontas on the twelfth day from the time we left camp. Our rations grew short about the seventh day out, but we put the confiscation act in force pretty extensively, and did not suffer any for grub. Saw some of the finest country while gone that I have seen in the South. Very large plantations--good improvements--some of the finest fields of corn I have seen in years. Cotton has been the main staple, but is not cultivated extensively now.

I have more camp news I could give you, but I must defer at present. The Mercer boys are all well, with the exception of John Moorehead, who has been quite poorly for some time. He is still going about camp, yet is not able for duty. Will send more camp news in my next.

Yours truly, J. G. C.

FROM CAMP McCLELLAN.

CAMP McCLELLAN, NEAR DAVENPORT, IOWA, Sept. 5, 1863.

DEAR EDITOR:--I drop you a few lines from this post, which, if you think proper, you can give a place in your columns.

Having a few leisure hours, I concluded I would come up and see

"the Injuns" and "things." There are now only about 160 or 200 red skins here. But it is really diverting to see the motley crew engaged in their different games of amusement. Some are running foot races, playing marbles, &c., while others, who are more industriously inclined, are making finger rings, which they manufacture from mussel shells, and sell to the white men, or trade for tobacco, snuff, &c. Their camp is about 350 yards wide by 400 yards long, surrounded by a high fence. About forty deserters are also in the same camp, but there is a division fence which cuts them off from any communication with the Indians. Ten Indians are allowed each day to go to the river, which is about 300 yards distant, for the purpose of bathing. This is a good idea, for if they were not allowed that privilege, they would probably remain dirty as long as they remain prisoners. They are a dirty, filthy set of human beings, far inferior to the African race. They seem to have no higher ambition than handling their bows and arrows. They are all expert swimmers, and even some of the smallest, among whom are some just beginning to run about, can swim well.

I am not much "military," but it seems to me an outrageous insult to the whole white race, for the Government to board and take care of these murderers, thieves and vagabonds. Why in the name of common sense don't they dispose of them in some way. If a dozen white men would start through the country, burning houses, murdering men, women and children, and committing other depredations on helpless females, which we well know, and they assert, that they have done, would they be treated as prisoners of war?-- No. Nor they should not. I believe in giving equal rights to all men,-- giving all men their just deserts-- and if they don't deserve hanging, murder, rape and arson are not crime, and every man has a right to sow tares in his neighbor's garden, and appropriate his property for his own use. But I am not a military man, and probably that accounts for my dullness of comprehension on this point.

Capt. Littler, formerly commander of this post, has left for St. Louis, there to take charge of the Provost duty, probably. He is a good man, a brave officer and a noble patriot. Lieut. Peckenpaugh succeeds him here, and seems to be a man in every respect capable of performing the duty assigned him.

A considerable excitement prevailed in camp a day or two since, caused by an Indian, the name of whom I have forgotten, stabbing his squaw. It is said the cause of this was jealousy. He afterwards stabbed himself, but the wounds were not considered dangerous. A doctor was immediately called in, who dressed the wounds and expressed the opinion that they were not serious.

Several companies have been removed from here to Camp Roberts, within a few days.

The soldiers in camp, who have a spare quarter, are amused by the performance of the "Yankee Boy and Scotch Girl," who have been playing in camp each evening for about two weeks.

Yours, &c., O. G. JACK.

THE PRESIDENT ON THE WAR.

Mr. Lincoln's Letter to the Springfield Convention.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, Aug. 26.

Hon. Jas. C. Conklin:

MY DEAR SIR:----Your letter inviting me to attend a mass meeting of unconditional Union men, to be held at the capital of Illinois, on the 3d day of September, has been received.

It would be very agreeable to me, to thus meet my old friends, at my own home; but I cannot just now be absent from here so long as a visit there would require.

The meeting is to be of all those who maintain unconditional devotion to the Union; and I am sure my old political friends will thank me for tendering, as I do, the Nation's gratitude to those other noble men, whom no partizan malice, or partizan hope, can make false to the nation's life.

There are those who are dissatisfied with me. To such I would say: You desire peace, and you blame me that we do not have it.---- But how can we attain it. There are but three conceivable ways. First, to suppress the rebellion by force of arms. This I am trying to do. Are you for it? If you are, so far we are agreed. If you are not for it, a second way is to give up the Union. I am against this. Are you for it? If you are, you should say so plainly. If you are not for peace, nor yet for dissolution, there only remains some imaginable compromise. I do not believe any compromise embracing the maintenance of the Union is now possible.--All I learn leads to a directly opposite belief. The strength of the rebellion is its military, its army. That army dominates all the country, and all the people, within its range. Any offer of terms made by any man, or men, within that range, in opposition to that army, is simply nothing for the present, because such man, or men, have no power whatever to enforce their side of a compromise if one were made with them. To illustrate: Suppose refugees from the South, and peace men of the North, get together in convention, and frame and proclaim a compromise embracing a restoration of the Union, in what way can that compromise be used to keep Lee's army out of Pennsylvania, and I think can ultimately drive it out of existence. But no compromise to which the controllers of Lee's army are not agreed can, at all effect that army. In an effort at such compromise we should waste time, which the enemy would improve to our disadvantage; and that would be all. A compromise, to be effective, must be made either with those who control the rebel army, or with the people first liberated from the domination of that army by the success of our own army. Now allow me to assure you that no word or intimation from that rebel army, or from any of the men controlling it, in relation to any peace compromise, has ever come to my knowledge or belief. All charges or insinuations to the contrary are deceptive and groundless and I promise you that if any such proposition shall hereafter come, it shall not be rejected and kept a secret from you, I freely acknowledge myself the servant of the people, according to the bond of service--the United States Constitution; and that, as

such, I am responsible to them.

But to be plain: You are dissatisfied with me about the negro. Quite likely there is a difference of opinion between you and myself upon that subject. I certainly wish that all men could be free, while I suppose you do not. Yet I have neither adopted nor proposed any measure which is not consistent with even your view, provided you are for the Union.-- I suggested compensated emancipation; to which you replied you wished not to be taxed to buy negroes. But I had not asked you to be taxed to buy negroes, except in such a way as to save you from greater taxation to save the Union exclusively by other means.

You dislike the emancipation Proclamation and perhaps would have it retracted. You say it is unconstitutional. I think differently: I think the Constitution invests its Commander-in-Chief with the law of war. The most that can be said, if so much, is, that slaves are property. Is there--has there ever been--any question that by the law of war, property, both of enemies and friends, may be taken when needed? And is it not needed whenever taking it helps us or hurts the enemy? Armies, the world over, destroy enemies property, when they cannot use it and even destroy their own to keep it from the enemy. Civilized belligerents do all in their power to help themselves or hurt the enemy, except a few things regarded as barbarous or cruel. Among the exceptions are the massacre of vanquished foes, and non-combatants, male and female.

But the Proclamation, as law, either is valid or not valid. If it is not valid it needs no retraction. If it is valid it can not be retracted any more than the dead can be brought to life. Some of you profess to think its retraction would operate favorably for the Union. Why better after the retraction than before the issue? There was more than a year and a half of trial to suppress the rebellion before the Proclamation was issued, the last one hundred days of which passed under an explicit notice that it was coming, unless averted by those in revolt returned to their allegiance. The war has certainly progressed as favorably for us since the issue of the Proclamation as before.

I know, as fully as any one can know the opinion of others, that some of the commanders of our armies in the field, who have given us some of our most important successes, believe the emancipation policy, and the use of the colored troops, constituted the heaviest blow yet dealt to the rebellion, and that, at least, one of these important successes could not have been achieved at the time it was but for the aid of black soldiers. Among the commanders holding these views are some who have never had any affinity with what is called abolitionism, or with Republican party policies, but who hold them purely as military opinions. I submit these opinions as being entitled to some weight against the objections often urged--that emancipation and arming the blacks are unwise as military measures and were not adopted as such in good faith.

You say you will not fight to free negroes. Some of them seem willing to fight for you; but no matter. Fight you, then, exclusively to save the Union. I issued the Proclamation on purpose to aid you in saving the Union. Whenever you shall have conquered all resistance to the Union, if I shall urge you to continue fighting, it will be an apt time, then, for you to declare you will not fight to free negroes.

I thought in your struggle for the Union to whatever extent the negroes should cease helping the enemy, to that extent it weakened

The first part of the paper discusses the importance of the study of the history of the United States. It is argued that a knowledge of the past is essential for a full understanding of the present. The author then proceeds to discuss the various factors that have shaped the development of the United States, including the role of the government, the influence of the economy, and the impact of the culture.

In the second part of the paper, the author examines the role of the government in the development of the United States. It is argued that the government has played a crucial role in shaping the country's history, from the early years of settlement to the present day. The author then discusses the various ways in which the government has influenced the economy and the culture.

The third part of the paper discusses the influence of the economy on the development of the United States. It is argued that the economy has played a crucial role in shaping the country's history, from the early years of settlement to the present day. The author then discusses the various ways in which the economy has influenced the government and the culture.

The fourth part of the paper discusses the impact of the culture on the development of the United States. It is argued that the culture has played a crucial role in shaping the country's history, from the early years of settlement to the present day. The author then discusses the various ways in which the culture has influenced the government and the economy.

In conclusion, the author argues that a knowledge of the history of the United States is essential for a full understanding of the present. The author then discusses the various factors that have shaped the development of the United States, including the role of the government, the influence of the economy, and the impact of the culture.

the enemy in his resistance to you. Do you think differently? I thought that whatever negroes can be got to do as soldiers, leaves just so much less for white soldiers to do in saving the Union. Does it appear otherwise to you?

But negroes, like other people, act upon emotions. Why should they do anything for us, if we will do nothing for them? If they stake their lives for us, they must be prompted by the strongest motive—even the promise of freedom; and the promise, being made, must be kept.

The signs look better. The Father of Waters again goes unvexed to the sea. Thanks to the Great Northwest for it — nor yet wholly to them. Three hundred miles up, they met New England, Empire, Keystone and Jersey, hewing their way right and left. The Sunny South, too, in more colors than one, also lent a hand. One the spot, their part of the history was jotted down in black and white. The job was a great national one; and let none be banned who bore an honorable part in it. And while those who have cleared the great river may well be proud, even that is not all. It is hard to say that anything has been more bravely or ably done than Antietam, Murfreesboro, Gettysburg, and on many fields of lesser note.

Nor must Uncle Sam's web feet be forgotten. At all the watery margins they have been present. Not only on the deep sea, the broad bay, and the rapid river, but also up the narrow muddy bayou, and wherever the ground was a little damp, they have been, and made their tracks. Thanks to all. For the great Republic—for the principle it lives by, and keeps alive—for man's vast future—thanks to all.

Peace does not appear so distant as it did, I hope it will come soon, and come to stay; and so come as to be worth the keeping in all future time. It will then have been proved that, among free men, there can be no successful appeal from the ballot to the bullet, and that they who take such appeal are sure to lose their case, and pay the cost; and then there would be some black men who can remember that, with silent tongue, and clenched teeth, and steady eye, and well poised bayonet, they have helped and maintained on to this great consummation; while I fear there will be some white ones, unable to forget that, with malignant hearts, and deceitful speech, they have striven to hinder it.

Still let us not be over sanguine of a speedy final triumph. Let us be quite sober. Let us diligently apply the means, never doubting that a just God, in his own good time, will give us the rightful result.

Yours, very truly,

A. Lincoln

LAST HOURS OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

By C. S. Taft, Acting Assistant Surg., U. S. A.

The following brief report of the circumstances attending the assassination, last hours, and autopsy of the late President, will doubtless prove of much interest to the profession, and may be relied upon as correct in all particulars, the notes from which it is written having been submitted to comparison with others taken, and corrected by the highest authority.

While sitting in an orchestra chair at Ford's Theatre, on Friday evening, the 14th inst., about 10.30 P. M., I heard the sharp report of a pistol in the direction of the State box, and turning my head in that direction, saw a wild looking man jump from the box to the stage, heard him shout "Sic semper tyrannis," as he brandished a glittering knife in his right hand for an instant, and dart across the stage from sight.

A few moments of utterly indescribable confusion followed, amid which I heard a call for a surgeon. I leaped upon the stage, and was instantly lifted by a dozen pair of hands up to the President's box, a distance of twelve feet from the stage.

When I entered the box, the President was lying upon the floor, surrounded by his wailing wife and several gentlemen who had entered from the dress-circle. The respiration was inaudible and scarcely perceptible, and he was totally insensible. Ass't Surgeon Charles A. Leale, U. S. V., was in the box, and had caused the coat and vest to be cut off, in searching for the wound. The wound in the head was soon found, but at that time there was no oozing from it.

Several gentlemen in the box were insisting upon having the President removed to his home, but Dr. Leale and myself protested against such a proceeding, and insisted upon his being carried to the nearest house opposite, and laid upon a bed in fifteen minutes from the time the shot was fired. The wound was there examined, the finger being used as a probe, and the ball found to have passed beyond the reach of the finger into the brain. I put a teaspoonful of diluted brandy between the lips, which was swallowed with much difficulty; a half-teaspoonful administered ten minutes afterward, was retained in the throat, without any effort being made to swallow it. The respiration now became labored; pulse 44, feeble, eyes entirely closed, the left pupil much contracted, the right widely dilated; total insensibility to light in both.

Surgeon-General Barnes and Robert K. Stone, M. D., the family physician, arrived and took charge of the case. At their suggestion, I administered a few drops of brandy, to determine whether it could be swallowed, but as it was not, no further attempt was made. The left upper eyelid was swollen and dark from effused blood; this was observed a few minutes after his removal from the theatre. About thirty minutes after he was placed upon the bed discoloration from effusion began in the internal canthus of the right eye, which became rapidly discolored and swollen with great protrusion of the eye.

About 11.30 P. M., twitching of the facial muscles of the left side set in and continued some fifteen or twenty minutes, and the mouth was drawn slightly to the same side. Siccipisms over the entire

anterior surface of the body were ordered, together with artificial heat to the extremities.

The wound began to ooze very soon after the patient was placed upon the bed, and continued to discharge blood and brain tissue until 5.30 A. M., when it ceased entirely; the head, in the meantime, being supported in such a position as to facilitate the discharge. The only surgical aid that could be rendered, consisted in maintaining the head in such a position as to facilitate the discharge of the wound, and in keeping the orifice free from coagulum.

Col. Crane, Surgeon, U. S. A., had charge of the head during a great part of the time, being relieved at intervals in this duty by myself. While the wound was discharging freely, the respiration was easy; but the moment the discharge was arrested from any cause, it became, it became at once labored.

It was also remarkable to observe the great difference in the character of the pulse whenever the orifice of the wound was freed from coagulum, and discharge freely; thus relieving, in a measure, the compression. This fact will account for the fluctuations in the pulse, as given in the subjoined notes.

About 2 A. M., an ordinary silver probe was introduced into the wound by the Surgeon General. It met an obstruction about three inches from the external orifice, which was decided to be the plug of bone driven in from the skull and lodged in the track of the ball. The probe passed by this obstruction, but was too short to follow the track the whole length. A long Nelaton probe was then procured and passed into the track of the wound for the distance of two inches beyond the plug of bone, when the ball was distinctly felt; passing beyond this, the fragments of the orbital plate of the left orbit were felt. The ball made no mark upon the porcelain tip, was afterwards found to be of exceedingly hard lead.

Some difference of opinion existed as to the exact position of the ball, but the autopsy confirmed the correctness of the diagnosis upon first exploration. No further attempt was made to explore the wound.

After the cessation of the bleeding from the wound, the respiration was stertorous up to the last breath, which was drawn at twenty-one minutes and fifty-five seconds past seven; the heart did not cease to beat until twenty-two minutes and ten seconds past seven. My hand was upon the heart, and my eye on the watch of the Surgeon-General, who was standing by my side, with his finger on the carotid.

The decubitus during the whole time was dorsal, and the position on the bed diagonal; the length of the bedstead not admitting of any other position.

The respiration during the last thirty minutes was characterized by occasional intermissions; no respiration being made for nearly a minute, but by a convulsive effort air would gain admission to the lungs, when regular, though stertorous, respiration would go on for some seconds, to be followed by another period repose.

At these times the death-like stillness and suspense were thrilling. The cabinet ministers, and others surrounding the death-bed, watching, with suspended breath, the last feeble inspiration, and as the unbroken quiet would seem to prove that life had fled, turn their eyes to their watches; then as the struggling life within would force another fluttering respiration, heave deep sighs of relief, and fix their eyes once more upon the face of their dying

chief.

The wonderful vitality exhibited by the late President, was one of the most interesting and remarkable circumstances connected with the case. It was the opinions of the surgeons in charge, that most patients would have died in two hours from the reception of such an injury, yet Mr. Lincoln lived from 10.30 P. M., until 7.22 A. M.

The following observations of the pulse and respiration were noted down by Dr. A. F. A. King, at the bed-side, and are correct. The pulse was counted by Acting Assistant Surgeon Ford.

10.55--48

11.06--45

11.18--42, and weaker.

11.24--42, respiration, 27 per minute, breathing quiet.

11.26-- irregular, intermits occasionally.

11.30--45, respiration more frequent and vigorous.

11.32--45, stronger, respiration much more strong and stertorous.

11.37--48, respiration again silent and more feeble.

11.40--45.

11.43--45, resp. stertorous.

11.47--45, respiration, 24, stertorous.

11.56--48, weaker.

12.10--48, same character.

12.27--54,

12.28--60.

12.29--66, intermittent.

12.38--66.

12.45--69, intermittent.

12.49--84, respiration 28.

12.56--66.

1.00--100.

1.15--92.

1.30--95.

2.10--60, respiration 34.

2.19--58.

2.32--54.

2.37--48.

2.54--48, much weaker, more thready; respirations feeble.

4.18--60, respiration 27, strong and stertorous.

5.40--64, thready, respiration 27.

6.10--60, hardly perceptible (Barnes), respiration 26, stertorous.

6.25--thready, not counted; respiration 22; inspirations jerking.

6.40--inspirations short and feeble; expirations prolonged, and groaning; a deep, softly sonorous, cooing sound at the end of each expiration, audible to bystanders.

6.45--respiration uneasy, choking and grunting; lower jaw relaxed; mouth open; a minute without a breath; face getting dark.

6.59--breathes again a little more at intervals; another long pause.

7.00--still breathing at long pauses.

7.20--died.

About 1 P. M., spasmodic contractions of the muscles came on, causing pronation of the fore-arms; the pectoral muscles seemed to be fixed, the breath was held during the spasm, and a sudden and forcible expiration immediately succeeded it.

At about the same time both pupils became widely dilated, and remained so until death.

During the night Drs. Hall, May, Liebermann, and nearly all the leading men of the profession in the city, tendered their services.

AUTOPSY; FIVE HOURS AFTER DEATH.

Present: Surgeon-General Barnes, Colonel Crane, Dr. Stone, Assistant Surgeon Woodward, U. S. A., Assistant Surgeon Curtis, U. S. A., Assistant Surg. Notson, U. S. A., and Acting Assistant Surgeon Taft, U. S. A.

The calvaria was removed, the brain exposed, and sliced down to the track of the ball, which was plainly indicated by a line of coagulated blood, extending from the external wound in the occipital bone, obliquely across from the left to right through the brain to the anterior lobe of the cerebrum, immediately behind the right orbit. The surface of the right hemisphere was covered with coagulated blood. After removing the brain from the cranium, the ball dropped from its lodgment in the anterior lobe. A small piece of the ball evidently cut off in its passage through the occipital bone, was previously taken out of the track of the ball, about four inches from the external wound. The hole made through the occipital bone was as cleanly cut as if done with a punch.

The point of entrance was one inch to the left of the longitudinal sinus, and opening into the lateral sinus. The ball was flattened, convex on both sides, and evidently moulded by hand in a Derringer pistol mould, as indicated by the ridged surface left by the nippers in clipping off the neck.

The orbital plates of both orbits were the seats of comminuted fracture, the fragments being forced inward, and the dura-mater covering them, remaining uninjured. The double fracture was decided to have been caused by contre coup. The plug of bone driven in from the occipital bone was found in the track of the ball, about three inches from the external wound, proving the correctness of the opinion advanced by the Surgeon-General and Dr. Stone as to its nature, at the exploration of the wound before death.

The ball and fragments, together with the fragments of the occipital bone, were placed in the possession of Dr. Stone, the family physician, who marked and delivered them, pursuant to instructions, to the Secretary of State, who sealed them up with his private seal. The Nelaton probe used was also marked by me, and sealed up in like manner.

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